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REPORT

ON

THE POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

RAJPOOTANA STATES

FOR 1869-70.

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REPORT
ON
THE POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION
OF THE
RAJPOOTANA STATES
FOR 1869-70.

No. 211P., dated 15th June 1870.

From—LIEUT.-COL. R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Agent, Governor-General, Rajpootana.

To—C. U. AIRCHISON, Esq., C.S.I., Officiating Secretary to Government of India, Foreign Dept., with G.-G.

I HAVE the honor to transmit my Annual Report of Political Administration for 1869-70, and to enclose those of the Political Agents *in extenso*.

2. Last year these statements were submitted in July, after the long-delayed rain had fallen, and it was then hoped that our disasters were at an end : they were in reality nearly all before us.

3. The land was sown with extreme difficulty from the want of cattle. A considerable portion of what was brought under cultivation was ploughed by men and women taking the place of cattle in the yoke. Large numbers of small ploughs were made up for this emergency.

4. The season was decidedly good, but the locusts came over the land in numbers never seen by the present generation, and wherever the country was sandy they ate up everything.

5. It is almost universally believed by Natives, and very generally by Europeans, that, in times of failure, distress is much aggravated by the hoarding propensities of the Bunya class. The events of last autumn show that in Rajpootana, far from hoarding unduly, they had failed to maintain a safe store in reserve, and in August and September there

was a terrible crisis. In the Ajmere District life was saved by the untiring exertions of Captain Repton, the Deputy Commissioner, his Assistants, and the gentlemen of the Presbyterian Mission, whilst the Public Works Officers worked both in British territory, and, where funds were available, in the Native States, with a steady devotion to their duty, which was rendered doubly hard from the absolute isolation in which many were placed whilst surrounded by death and disease.

6. Generally in the Native States the people died by thousands and lay unburied by the waysides. Except for a few weeks, food was always to be bought in open market, but in most States there were some days or weeks when the scarcity was such that sales were concealed and food could not be exposed for sale in the bazars; then those who were already enfeebled lay down to die.

7. Charity was not wanting. As a rule the richer class of Natives gave away food according to their means, but we saw few instances of the thoughtful and organized charity on a large scale which, by importing grain from a distance and by the employment of the people on remunerative works, could alone save the masses. Such charity was shown by the—

Maharaja of Kerowlee,

Do. of Jeypore,

Do. of Kishengurh,

Maharaj Rana of Jhallawar,

Maharana of Oodeypore,

By the Tonk Administration,

and by the Maharaja of Jodhpore to the extent of placing one lakh of rupees at the disposal of the Department Public Works, but not otherwise.

8. These exertions were, however, as drops in the ocean when brought face to face with the extent of the calamity.

9. It is incumbent on me to mention separately the charity of His Highness the Raja of Dhar, who, besides other donations, provided funds to support four hundred children at Erinpoora until food was again procurable.

10. In my last Report I mentioned that up to that date we owed our supplies of food to the East India and the Bombay and Baroda Railways, but it will be seen that later on, even with the aid of these grand organizations, traders were unable to place sufficient food in the country. It may safely be predicted that without the rail Central Rajpootana

would have been abandoned to the vultures and the wolves, whilst wide-spread death and famine would have been seen at Agra, at Indore, and in Ahmedabad.

11. On the 28th September 1869, under the orders of Government, a large convoy of wheat was despatched from Agra to Ajmere under escort with carriage pressed as for emergent Military service.

12. The benefit of this measure was realized long before the grain reached its destination. The knowledge that it was *en route* put an end to all hoarding, if there was any, whilst the example of Government seemed to stimulate private enterprize.

13. The full benefit of the road between Agra and Ajmere was now felt. During the first year of famine, when grass and straw were not to be bought for money, camels were the only carriage available, and to them the road presented no grand advantages over the common country track, but with the second season circumstances changed : food for man was then scarcely procurable, whilst green grass was in plenty, and the carts crowded after one another along this communication until they threatened to obliterate it, grinding the metal, the berme, and the side drains into one great sandy track.

14. A Railway between Agra and Ajmere would have saved an amount of protracted misery which cannot be considered without horror.

15. During the year the code of rules for Intrajurisdictional Courts of Vakeels received much attention. It had been generally acknowledged that a revision was necessary. A Committee was assembled by whom the whole rules were recast, and after circulation to Chiefs and Political Agents the amended code has been submitted to Government for approval.

16. I make no allusion to three large branches of the Administration—

Public Works,

Local Corps,

Dispensaries and Vaccination,

as they are fully treated in separate professional Reports.

17. The depredations of the Mogheea tribe is discussed in the Tonk Report. I have proposed to Government the appointment of a special officer to rectify the boundaries in the neighbourhood of Neemuch, feeling certain that no less radical change will make good government possible in that neighbourhood.

18. The appended Report by Captain Percy Powlett on the affairs of Biccaneere is of very particular interest, as it is the first since an officer was specially entrusted with the communications from that State. Captain Powlett's previous service in the Punjab has essentially qualified him for this charge.

19. With these remarks I proceed to notice the leading circumstances of interest regarding each State.

OODEYPORE.

20. Colonel Nixon has adopted a course new to Rajpootana by inducing the Durbar to present to Government a Report by the Minister on the condition of the State. This movement is worthy of high commendation.

21. A first commencement of regular Criminal and Civil Courts, with presiding officers having certain defined powers, has been made during the year.

22. The Maharana contemplates the introduction of a regular and systematic revenue settlement, and a boundary settlement is promised to be commenced at the beginning of next cold weather.

23. The Nusseerabad and Neemuch Road is progressing, and is open as far as Bheelwarra.

24. A road is being made by the Durbar to connect Oodeypore and Kherwarra. The spirit shown by the Maharana in forwarding these works is very commendable.

25. An Agency for the weighment of opium has been opened at Oodeypore. Although only 444 chests were weighed instead of 6,000 as estimated, its advantages cannot be ignored; it is appreciated by the opium-dealers in Rajpootana as giving them the means of independence of the Indore dealers.

26. There has not been a single mail robbery during the year. A new Post Office has been established at Neembahera.

27. The relief measures instituted by the Maharana have been most liberal, and have gained him a good name in the country.

28. He was seriously ill for about five months, but has now quite recovered. His patience under much suffering and his evident wish to follow good advice have much endeared him to the European officers whose duty has brought them in contact with him.

29. During my own visit to Oodeypore I was able to communicate freely with His Highness, and found much relief from the absence of the formalities which in 1868 I had thought so objectionable.

30. In the matter of the installation, or "Tulwar Bundai," of the Deogurh Rawul, which is alluded to in paragraph 15 of the Minister's Report, the Durbar has behaved with good sense. There are many reasons which make Deogurh an exception to the general rules on the subject, and the matter had already been decided by the Political Agent and by Government.

31. I wish I could say the same as to the Bagore succession case, alluded to in paragraph 14. In this matter there has, I fear, been a very serious miscarriage of justice, and my earnest and repeated requests that His Highness should place the matter in the hands of some competent tribunal has been neglected. If any evidence has been taken or any procedure adopted to sift the claim, it has not been communicated to me.

HILLY TRACTS OF MEYWAR.

32. Owing to the growing insubordination of the Bheels of certain Pals, a Raj force was sent to punish them. The effects have been most beneficial, and crime has greatly diminished.

33. The Oodeypore Durbar has been most liberal in its measures to alleviate the distress caused by the famine in the hilly tracts, and relief works involving an expenditure of nearly Rupees 10,000 were sanctioned, and have been carried out.

PERTABGURH.

34. The Political Agent states that the administration of this State has not given satisfaction. A new Minister, Oonkar Byas, was appointed, but has not managed as well as had been hoped.

35. I passed through the State during the marching season, and remained two days at Pertabgurh. The administration was rude, but the people appeared contented, and the place itself was evidently thriving.

36. I found the Chief intelligent and surrounded with his Thakoors and relations, which is essentially a good sign. The bazar at Pertabgurh contains a large number of wealthy traders, who visited me, and neither openly nor in secret made any complaints.

BANSWARRA.

37. The Assistant Political Agent, Mr. Framjee Beekajee, was appointed during the course of the year, and took charge on the 30th December 1869.

38. The administration of civil and criminal justice is very slow and unsatisfactory.

39. The excess of expenditure over revenue was Rupees 17,525, and the Chief expresses his inability to reduce his expenses. Colonel Nixon has been addressed on this subject.

40. The eldest son of the Maharawul died in November last, but there are still two legitimate sons alive.

41. My tour through Banswarra has convinced me that the political condition of the State is very serious. A small portion of it is in khalsa management; the remainder is divided amongst Jaghiredars and Nobles, who do not acknowledge the authority of the Durbar, and, as far as I can learn, have not done so for many years. In other States this truculent demeanour is usually confined to certain Nobles with whom the Durbar has some special quarrel. In Banswarra there are few exceptions. To such an extent is this independence carried, that very few of the Jaghiredars attended at Banswarra during my visit, because the invitation was addressed to them by the Chief, and not by me.

42. I do not believe that the Maharawul will be able to overcome this difficulty without the assistance of Government, and if it is not surmounted, we have the very dangerous condition of a mountainous and forest country on the border of two Presidencies held by a wild tribe with whom we have no recognized means of communication.

43. There can be no doubt of the Maharawul's intelligence and his ability to assist in the reorganization of the country if he can be brought to trust Government and to act cordially with its officers.

44. Banswarra and Doongurpore struck me as the most beautiful and the most improvable portions of Rajpootana; the soil is rich, the country, where not forest, is dotted with beautiful trees, and there are a great number of tanks and reservoirs of high antiquity from which considerable areas are irrigated.

DOONGURPORE.

45. The Maharawul and his Minister have exerted themselves to improve the condition of the State, and various relief works were started to alleviate distress.

46. One hundred and twenty-four mercenaries (Wilaitees and Mukranees) have been discharged during the year.

47. The conduct of the Maharawul is highly spoken of by Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie, and I am myself much impressed with the amiability and good intentions of the Chief.

JEYPORE.

48. The Political Agent reports want of independence of action amongst the Members of the State Council, but at the same time that the administration of affairs in Jeypore is greatly in advance of other Native States with which he is acquainted.

49. The effects of the famine were more severely felt this year than last, but at the capital many charitable measures of great value were adopted to alleviate the sufferings of the poor.

50. The revenue for the past year is reported at only Rupees 26,60,332, and the expenditure at Rupees 58,00,788, but it is doubtful what amount of credence can be placed on these statements.

51. In the Public Works there has been an expenditure of Rupees 1,96,110, exclusive of establishment. A good deal of attention has been paid to irrigation.

52. Two maps, marked M. and N., are attached to Political Agent's Report, which exhibit the situation of works of this nature which have received attention. I consider the Executive Engineer has displayed good sense in seeking to repair the old works of the country before attempting to construct new.

53. Great credit is due to Lieutenant Jacob, Executive Engineer of the State, and the department under him, for their assiduity and energy in carrying out the Durbar's requisitions.

54. In education improvement has taken place. During the year a pupil teacher class has been established for supplying teachers for the District Schools.

55. The progress in the Jeypore School of Arts since Dr. DeFabeck took charge has been marked, and this institution will eventually, if well supported, turn out of great benefit to Jeypore, if not to art in India generally.

56. The jail charge was transferred from Dr. Burr, the Political Agency Surgeon, to Dr. Valentine, of the Durbar service, during the course of the past year, the Durbar being

anxious to bring it under the control of its own officers and to avoid differences of opinion which had arisen regarding the sanitary condition of the inmates.

57. The Jeypore portion of the Sambhur Lake has during the year been taken over on lease by the British Government under a Treaty dated 7th August 1869.

58. Four mail robberies occurred during the past year, and though every exertion was made by the Native Government, in one only were the thieves traced. In two cases the amount of plundered property was made good by the State in which they occurred, and two are still under enquiry.

59. The exports for the past year were approximately Rupees 26,50,000, and the imports, Rupees 39,75,000. The Banking transactions of Jeypore are very heavy, accounted for chiefly by Jeypore supplying nearly the whole of Rajpootana with gold, silver, and precious stones.

60. His Highness the Maharaja accepted a seat in the Legislative Council and spent some time in Calcutta attending to the duties of his office.

SHEKAWATTEE OF JEYPORE.

61. A great improvement is reported during the year, and the Durbar appears to have awakened to the necessity of cordial co-operation with Captain Powlett.

62. Greater confidence and good feeling also exist between the Maharaja and the Shekawattee Thakoors.

63. A regiment of cavalry and one of infantry have been raised in Shekawattee, and are employed in their own country.

SEEKUR OF JEYPORE.

64. Mokund Singh has again well administered this estate and rendered great assistance to Captain Powlett.

65. The young Rao is reported as having made considerable progress in his studies.

KHETREE OF JEYPORE.

66. The Chief is still absent, and the affairs of the estate suffer in consequence.

67. As the Thakoor Sobhag Singh, who was originally appointed to the interim management, has not been able to remain at Khetree, the executive labours more often devolved on Moonshi Hurbuksh, who has now been formally appointed to the entire management.

68. There has been an excess of Rupees 7,300 of expenditure over income owing to the Raja's absence.

69. The feeling between the Maharaja and the Raja is still very unsatisfactory, and it is useless to hope for a better feeling until the large claim made by the Jeypore Durbar against Khetree has been adjusted.

LAWA.

70. The condition of this estate, which consists of one town, is reported as most unsatisfactory. The Officiating Political Agent states that strong measures must be taken to save it from ruin. A separate Report (as soon as practicable) has been promised by Captain Bradford.

KISHENGURH.

71. The revenue for the past year was Rupees 1,94,950, and the expenditure Rupees 2,20,082; the excess will probably be recovered from the increased revenue which will be received from sandy tracks which have been brought under cultivation during the past two years.

72. The Maharaja's administration has continued on the same model which has earned for him the reputation of being one of the best and justest Rulers in Rajpootana.

MARWAR.

73. This State has suffered most severely from the effects of famine, sickness, and locusts during the past year, but affairs have a more favourable aspect now.

74. The water supply of Jodhpore, which contains a population of about 100,000 souls, is a question of great difficulty. The number of wells is small, and their great depth makes the drawing of a sufficiency a most laborious undertaking to the women. With the mass bathing is out of the question. As in the desert, a sand bath suffices. This is a serious matter; such a city must be a nursery for epidemic diseases.

75. Colonel Brooke, the Officiating Political Agent, has in his Report made the following estimate of the loss of life in Marwar during the famine, which he bases on a census of the district of Mullanee.

76. He explains that full details of 81 villages have been recorded, that the circumstances of Mullanee are very much more favourable than those of the rest of Marwar, and that without allowing for this we obtain the following results:—

77. Of a population before the famine of 43,017; only 33,320 now remain, being a loss of about 25 per cent.

78. The mortality among the cattle in Marwar has been about 85 per cent. Before the famine it is calculated there were 2,250,000 head, and now only 375,000 remain.

79. The revenues of Marwar have suffered considerably. The Crown revenue may be estimated at about the following :—

| | <i>Rs.</i> |
|--|---------------|
| Land Revenue, less resumptious by Nobles ... | 7,00,000 |
| Assessed Taxes | 2,50,000 |
| Salt | 7,50,000 |
| Customs | 5,00,000 |
| Police and Judicial | 1,00,000 |
| Rekh (8 per cent. on Thakoor's estates) ... | 2,80,000 |
| Miscellaneous, including Hookumnamah, Interest, Fines, Hustey-Khuruch, &c. | 5,00,000 |
| Total ... | Rs. 30,80,000 |

80. During the last two years there has been a deficiency of about 10 lakhs per annum. During the coming year the revenue ought to recover half the yearly deficiency, but it will take four or five years to reach its former amount. No precise data can be given about the expenditure.

81. During the past year the Government of Marwar has undergone little alteration, and is, I believe, correctly described by Colonel Brooke in the following words :—

“ The same disregard to whatever is passing beyond its own narrow sphere distinguishes it now as before. Whatever can be obtained from the country in the shape of revenue by legitimate cesses or illegitimate exactions is greedily seized by its officials, but neither justice nor protection to the property of its subjects in return is deemed requisite. The parties at Court, in the eager search after power, intrigue and wrangle amongst themselves, regardless of the interests of the State or their own characters, and the absence of any efficient control has fostered a lax morality amongst all classes of *employés*, most prejudicial to the welfare of the country.”

82. The appointment of the Minister, Murdan Ali Khan, was for some time only nominal, but he gradually got the power into his hands. On trying to interfere with the finances of the State he has not been equally successful.

83. To remedy this, he has introduced a number of Mussulmen, and the old servants of the State, natives of the country, are being displaced from even the lowest offices.

The real work is neglected, and a feeling of distrust and irritation is universal. The Maharaja, instead of seeking to lessen the mischief, regards all who are opposed to it as his personal enemies and rebels. The Minister himself feels his unpopularity to such a degree that he keeps himself surrounded with guards, so as to almost exclude himself from the public.

84. The result of all this is that State affairs are neglected, the troops, establishments, and work people are all calling out for pay, and as soon as the Minister calls upon the Maharaja for money, he will fall into disgrace.

85. The dispute between the Maharaja and his eldest son has been again prominently brought forward during the year, and was only settled when it had almost ended in a discreditable collision.

86. The settlements with the younger sons have been accepted, with the exception of that for the second son, Zorawur Singh.

87. The settlement of the hookumnamah and the abolition of the tajeerut has given great satisfaction, and both parties have abided by the settlement.

88. The decision of the Political Agent regarding the outlawed Thakoors has not yet been formally accepted by the Maharaja, except in the case of Goolur and Bajoowas, but he does not appear to be strongly opposed to any of them, except that of the Asoph Estate.

89. The mediation with the principal Thakoors has not been interfered with, except in one case (Chirranee), but the Maharaja has since made no attempt to conciliate his feudatories. They are on good terms with the heir apparent, and this, of course, causes their loyalty to be suspected.

90. No enquiry has been entered upon as to the claims of the lesser Thakoors, who vacated their villages, but owing to their being taken by favourites and natural sons, several of them have been resumed.

91. The long-disputed boundary between Bass of Jey-sulmere and Phullowdee in Marwar has been again agitated.

92. Two large Meena bodies of plunderers in Godwar were attacked and captured by the Maharaj Kowur Jeswunt Singh, and the consequence has been that since August last there has not been a single complaint against that part of the country.

93. There are seeds of discord in Marwar which may at any time spring up and convulse the country; but a just course of action and an honest desire to deal fairly will always prevent a resort to arms. The Thakoors are anxious to avoid feuds amongst themselves, but are obliged by the local code of honor to revenge insult when offered.

94. The construction of the Agra and Ahmedabad Road between Burr and Erinpooora has been commenced with funds subscribed by the Durbar, but owing to the ruling of the Public Works Account Department, which has ordered that the work must not progress until the money for it is deposited in the Treasury, a sudden stoppage of work has been caused: this is matter for serious regret.

95. There have been no mail robberies during the year, notwithstanding that the banghy mails were for the greater period unprotected, the Police having abandoned their posts.

96. The Jodhpore share of the Sambhur Lake was during the year taken over on lease by the British Government under a Treaty dated 22nd November 1869.

97. By a second Treaty dated 11th February 1870 the Nawa and Goodha salt marts have also been taken over by the British Government on lease at a rent of Rupees 3,00,000 a year, together with a royalty of 40 per cent. on all yearly sales beyond nine lakhs of maunds of salt.

MULLANEE OF MARWAR.

98. This part of the country has been reduced to poverty, which it will take years to recover from. The mortality amongst the cattle was, if anything, greater than in the rest of Marwar.

JEYSULMERE.

99. During the year Thakoor Kesree Singh (uncle of the Maharawal, and for 25 years Minister of the State,) died, and was succeeded in office by his elder brother, Chuttur Singh, who is respected by all classes, although not of the same determined character, nor so much feared by the plundering Bhatties, as his brother was.

BICCANERE.

100. The administration of affairs is reported as unsatisfactory, but a change for the better has taken place since the appointment of Pundit Munphool, C.S.I., to the office of

Dewan. The Durbar shows great dilatoriness in answering references.

101. The effects of the famine have been most severely felt in Biccaneere; the Durbar did little towards alleviating distress, and has failed to do its duty even to the extent that has been acknowledged as necessary in the better class of Native States. The engagement to remit transit dues on grain was to a great extent disregarded.

102. The debts of the State are accumulating. The Durbar makes promises to pay, but does not keep them. The Political Assistant considers some arrangement will have to be made by Government.

103. The exertions made by the Jeypore, Jodhpore, and Biccaneere Governments for the suppression of dacoitee and other violent crimes on the triple border are favourably reported on by Captain Powlett, who is specially charged with preserving the peace of that hitherto lawless vicinity.

BOONDEE.

104. A son and heir was born to the Maharaja in September last.

105. The late Minister died in October last, and the post has not yet been filled up.

106. On my tour in the cold weather I had occasion to bring to the Maharao Raja's notice the disgraceful state of the jail. The Political Agent reports that reforms are being made.

107. Arrangements have at length been made for the liquidation of the arrears of compensatory awards of the International Courts of Vakeels. The interest has been paid off, and the principal is to be liquidated by half-yearly instalments of Rupees 20,000.

108. This State has suffered severely from the past famine. The Maharaja instituted relief measures, which were seconded by the Sahookars and Seths.

109. The Political Agent considers the Maharaja, although a bigoted Ruler and one suspicious of our motives, on the whole one of the most just and well-spoken-of Chiefs in Rajpootana.

110. I personally studied the condition of this State with much interest during my tour last season. I found the people, as stated in previous Reports, not discontented with their lot. I examined the Courts at the capital in considerable detail. They were in every respect on a poor and stinted

scale, and the formalities which we have learned to consider so necessary were absent. But I found in Boondee what is of far greater value, an indication that the institutions really were Courts of Equity, and that justice was there considered too holy a thing to be openly sold by slave-girls and eunuchs, as is often the case in Rajpootana.

111. The good name enjoyed by the Maharaja must be owing to this cause, and to the purity of his life in all other respects I can accord no praise. The whole country, though highly favoured by nature, presents a starved and backward condition, which conveys a painful impression even after some years' experience of Rajpootana. The villages are mean and dirty; the people are poorly clad and inveterate thieves. Progress is absolutely wanting; trade is trammelled by every description of antique custom: in the capital everything is falling to decay, and though it occupies one of the only passes through a long range of hills which divide the country as a wall, a carriage cannot be driven through it.

112. The late Captain Bruce used a happy expression in calling Boondee a fossil State. It has, indeed, under its present Ruler, preserved many traces of both the good and the bad features of Native Governments as they existed before the feudal system was suddenly paralysed by the security which has followed on British rule.

KOTAH.

113. The condition of affairs in this State is most unsatisfactory. The Chief thoroughly distrusts his Ministers, and being seldom himself able to attend to public business, all transactions and references on even the most trivial matters fall into arrears.

114. The Minister died in February last, but the post has not yet been filled up. The duties are conducted jointly by two officials of inferior status.

115. This State puts more checks on traders and travellers than any other in Rajpootana. It is the fact, though scarcely credible, that at the large city of Kotah on the Chumbul no goods or persons are permitted to cross the river without a special pass from the Chief, which it takes many days to secure. The custom is continued, though I spoke about it personally to him in full Durbar.

116. The relations between this Durbar and its Kotree fiefs have remained as unsatisfactory as heretofore. Poosode, a village belonging to the Chief of Peepulda, was very

unjustly taken possession of, but has since been restored after much correspondence.

117. The effects of the famine were not so severely felt in this as in most other States. Both harvests of this year were above the average.

118. This Durbar has not carried out its promises regarding the withdrawal of restrictions on the export of grain from its territories, though it received the thanks of the Government of India on the subject, as conveyed in your Office letter No. 34, dated 7th January 1869.

119. The appearance and establishments of the Courts at Kotah are in some respects above the average, but this is a mere legacy of better days: justice does not exist, and cannot be expected under existing circumstances.

120. The jail is the best I saw in Haraotee, though ill-adapted to its purpose.

121. In many respects the administration of Kotah resembles that of Marwar. In both States the Chiefs, unfitted for the labours of official life, will not trust their Ministers, but succumb to the persevering entreaties of zenana favourites and personal attendants, who scramble for the crumbs of power, which bring so rich a harvest. In both States there are a class of powerful Nobles who do not fear such petty tyrants, and have, in consequence, become practically independent of every higher authority to the great detriment of the polity of Rajpootana.

JHALLAWAR.

122. The famine was not so severe in this State, but the Chief started various relief works, and has behaved liberally in doing all he could to alleviate distress.

123. All action with regard to the Opium Agency mentioned in my last Annual Report has stopped owing to the want of success of the new scales opened elsewhere.

124. A proposal for a new jail on the principle of our own jails is now under attention.

125. A school has been opened during the past year, and promises well.

126. A large portion of the villages of the State have been leased during the year in contract for a period of five years. I made a good deal of enquiry regarding these leases on my way through the country after leaving the capital. I fear they have been granted without securing due protection to the cultivators.

127. Except Biccaneere and Kotah, Jhallawar is one of the most inaccessible capitals in India. From whichever side it is approached, a long journey must be accomplished over a country unprovided with any single facility for travelling, and its backward condition must be principally attributed to this cause.

128. The Chief is temperate, intelligent, and really anxious to do his duty, but the more I see of Native States, the more I realize the difficulty which exists to progress even when it is desired by a Chief with nominally despotic powers.

TONK.

129. The administration of this State was made over to the young Nawab, Muhammad Ibraheem Khan, on the 1st January last.

130. Sahibzadeh Oobeydoola Khan, uncle of the Nawab, has been appointed Dewan; he is young, educated, and well spoken of.

131. The revenue for the year was Rupees 10,65,574, and the expenditure, ordinary and extraordinary, Rupees 10,45,624.

132. The northern districts suffered from the famine, but relief works were set on foot by the late Captain J. Blair with unfailing energy and thought, and thus much distress was alleviated.

133. The Political Agent reports that the preventive measures adopted by the late Captain J. Blair for reclaiming the Moghees have not been so successful as was hoped, but attributes this result to the facilities afforded by the broken jurisdictions for a robber life. The territories of Meywar, Scindia, and Tonk are so intermingled at Neembahera, that a few miles' run brings a fugitive into safe asylum from one State into another, whilst the want of unity displayed by the local officers prevents anything like systematic action. The Political Agent considers that a change for the better cannot be expected till the operations against the tribe are entrusted to a British officer.

134. There has been a falling off in the attendance at the school during the past year owing to the want of interest in it on the part of the Nawab.

135. On the whole, the commencement of the new administration in Tonk may be said to have dawned favourably.

SHAHPOORA.

136. This Chiefship has been transferred to the Rajpootana Circle from the Government of the North-Western Provinces during the past year.

137. The Chief died in the beginning of November last, and was reported to have made a death bed adoption, which has since been set aside by Government after a most detailed investigation in favour of another member of the family.

138. The revenue of Phoollea Shahpoora is about Rupees 2,27,969, the population about 35,771 souls; the rural population is entirely Hindoo.

139. Of Kachowla, the Meywar portion of this Chiefship, the income is about Rupees 34,404, the population about 15,550.

140. The effects of the famine were very severely felt. Of 79,937 horned cattle, which were in the district in July 1868, only 26,021, or about 32 per cent., now remain.

141. The career of the late Chief is one of those examples only too common of the uncertain result of the most careful education of a young man who is to be, whilst still in his boyhood, surrendered to the enormous temptations incidental to high rank in India. Nothing was spared by the Deputy Commissioner of Ajmere during the minority to render the heir to the estate worthy to rule and the estate fit to receive an improved administration, but the labour was all thrown away. These repeated failures seem to me to indicate that, if nothing further is possible, each minor should at all events be educated with a group of young men from his estate, the full cost of their education forming a charge against his revenues.

142. This measure would not provide against the young Chief proving intemperate or weak-minded, but in most cases it would secure the management from such retrogression as has occurred in Shahpoora.

MEENA DISTRICTS UNDER THE HARAOTEE AGENCY.

143. No instance of serious crime has occurred during the past year in these districts, though there has been a loss of 21 per cent. of population and 66 per cent. of cattle.

144. When the extreme turbulence of this district only a few years ago is borne in mind, the result may be accepted as most highly creditable to the Haraotee Agency and to the Oodeypore Durbar.

STATION OF DEOLEE.

145. The Agency School established by the late Captain Bruce progresses satisfactorily, and the necessity for a ferry on the Bunnass has been recognized.

SIROHI.

146. During the past year Niamut Ali has been re-appointed Dewan, and the Political Assistant reports that he has set himself energetically to work to reduce expenditure, and there is now some hope of the State debt being paid off.

147. The notorious outlaw Nathoo Singh died of fever in November last, but his son and his cousin still remain in outlawry and make occasional plundering excursions into Sirohi.

148. The effects of the famine have been most severely felt in this State. Various relief measures were adopted, and a number of lives were no doubt saved thereby. The locusts did more harm here than in almost any other part of Rajpootana.

149. A free school has been established at Aboo, which, it is hoped, will work good effects: there has been a daily attendance of 29 boys and 4 girls.

150. The improvement in the condition of the Grassias is most creditable, and on this point I fully concur with Captain Baylay that the policy pursued by the Maharao is deserving of commendation.

151. Generally I concur in this officer's view of the condition of Sirohi, though his account is on the whole too favourable. I cannot myself say that I anticipate its being long able to stand alone.

EASTERN STATES.

152. This Agency, comprising the States of Bhurtpore, Ulwur, Kerowlee, and Dholepore, was formed in May 1869, Captain Walters being gazetted as Agent.

153. This officer proceeded to Europe on two years' furlough in October last, and Captain J. J. Blair, Assistant Agent to the Governor-General, was appointed to officiate.

154. The untimely death of Captain Blair in March, when affairs at Kerowlee and Ulwur required so much attention, was greatly to be deplored.

155. Captain Cadell, V.C., was appointed in succession to the late Captain Blair, and immediately received orders from Government to proceed to Ulwur to arbitrate the dispute between the Chief and the Thakoors. He had thus no leisure to prepare an Annual Report, and I informed him he need not do so.

156. The Chiefs of Bhurtpore, Ulwur, and Dholepore visited Calcutta in December, to be present at the reception of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

157. I had the honor to address Government with reference to an escort for the Political Agent, Eastern States, in November and February last. In April a reply was received calling for a Return of all escorts furnished to Political Agents in Rajpootana, and stating from what source provided. At the end of April this Return was furnished. No further communication on the matter has been received.

BHURTPORE.

158. His Highness the Maharaja attained his majority in February 1869. Before handing the administration over to him, the following rules, which have received the approval of Government, were drawn up for his guidance until 1872, when he will complete his 21st year:—

I.—His Highness to assume the Government of the country, on the understanding that he is to administer it in accordance with the following general scheme.

II.—The conduct of affairs to be continued as much as possible in conformity with present arrangements, and no material change to be made without the sanction of Political Agent.

III.—The Adawluttees of Bhurtpore and Deeg shall, in future, be empowered to award sentence of imprisonment, rigorous or simple, for a period not exceeding five years, and to levy a fine of Rupees 100.

IV.—In criminal jurisdiction no appeal to lie from sentences passed by these two officials not exceeding imprisonment for one month or a fine of Rupees 10.

V.—All criminal cases beyond the jurisdiction of the Adawluttees of Bhurtpore and Deeg shall be submitted to the Regency Council with an expression of opinion by the submitting officer. The Regency Council will make or order any further enquiries in the case that they may deem necessary, record their opinion, and forward on the proceedings for the final orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

VI.—His Highness to be empowered to award punishment in all criminal cases up to ten years' imprisonment, rigorous or simple, and to fine up to Rupees 500: beyond these limits all cases to be submitted to the Political Agent.

VII.—In all cases where a sentence of imprisonment is passed exceeding ten years, when the Political Agent coincides with the Maharaja

and the Regency Council, their united decision shall be final. When a difference of opinion exists, the case shall be referred by the Political Agent for the orders of the Governor-General's Agent. Cases where a sentence of death is passed will, as heretofore, be submitted through the Governor-General's Agent for the orders of the Government of India.

VIII.—In civil cases the jurisdiction of the Adawluttees of Bhurtpore and Deeg shall continue as heretofore.
 Original civil jurisdiction. Their decision shall be final in all cases where the amount decreed is not more than Rupees 150.

IX.—The Council of Regency to be continued as heretofore under the name of the Bhurtpore State Council, with two additional Members to be nominated by the Maharaja with the concurrence of the Political Agent.

X.—The State Council to conduct the general administration of the country in the same manner as hitherto, submitting to His Highness the Maharaja all matters that have heretofore been sent for final orders to the Political Agent.

XI.—The Adawluttees of Bhurtpore and Deeg to hear all cases in appeal from the subordinate officials as heretofore, an appeal lying from their decision to the Council of State, except as laid down in Rule IV.

XII.—The State Council to act as an Appellate Court as heretofore, and their decision up to imprisonment for one year and fine to Rupees 100 not to be subject to appeal. But the State Council shall not be empowered to enhance any sentence of imprisonment passed by the lower Courts.

XIII.—The Council consisting of six members, three shall be necessary to form a "quorum" on ordinary judicial business. When a difference of opinion exists, the case is to be laid before the whole Council and to be decided by the opinion of the majority.

XIV.—Except as provided in Section XII., an appeal shall lie from the Regency Council to the Maharaja.

XV.—The Adawluttees of Bhurtpore and Deeg shall hear all appeals from the subordinate Courts as heretofore, an appeal lying from their decision, except Civil Appeals. an appeal lying from their decision, except as laid down in Rule VIII., to the State Council.

XVI.—In all civil cases where the amount decreed is not more than Rupees 500, the decision of the State Council shall be final.

XVII.—Beyond that sum an appeal shall lie to the Maharaja, whose decision up to Rupees 5,000 shall be final. In cases where the amount decreed is more than Rupees 5,000, the Maharaja should act in consultation with the Political Agent. If the Maharaja and Political Agent coincide in opinion, their decision shall be final, otherwise the case shall be submitted for the final orders of the Governor-General's Agent.

XVIII.—As regards the Deorhee villages, in criminal cases the Monserrim of the Deorhee shall exercise the same powers as the Tehseeldars of other pergunnahs, viz., to imprison with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding three months and to fine up to Rupees 10, subject to appeal to the Council of State.

XIX.—All criminal cases beyond the jurisdiction of the Monserrim of the Deorhee shall be submitted by him with an expression of opinion to the Council, who in such cases shall have power to imprison up to five years, subject to an appeal to the Maharaja, whose decision shall be final.

XX.—In all cases when the punishment to be awarded is beyond five years, the case shall be sent by the State Council to the Maharaja with an expression of opinion, and the Maharaja shall act in all such cases in accordance with Rule VI.

XXI.—In civil jurisdiction the Monserrim of the Deorhee shall have power to decide all cases up to Rupees 500, subject to an appeal to the Regency Council, whose decision up to that limit shall be final.

XXII.—When the amount decreed is more than Rupees 500, an appeal shall lie to the Maharaja, who shall act in all such cases as laid down in Rule XVIII.

XXIII.—In revenue matters the Monserrim of the Deorhee shall have entire control, subject to reference to the Maharaja. But the Monserrim of the Deorhee shall not be empowered to enhance the rent of any village fixed by settlement; he shall not make any change in the system of the general administration of the Revenue Department of the villages under his care, nor shall he be empowered to entertain or dismiss any subordinate without sanction previously obtained from the Maharaja.

XXIV.—The Revenue Administration shall be continued according to present arrangements, excepting only that the chief Revenue Officer shall not, unless specially empowered by the Maharaja to do so, interfere with the Revenue Administration of Deorhee villages. All cases which have hitherto been submitted to the Political Agent for final orders shall be sent to the Maharaja for disposal.

XXV.—The financial affairs of the State shall be conducted by the Maharaja in the same manner as they have hitherto been conducted by the Political Agent, with the exception noted below.

XXVI.—The average expenditure of the State during the past seven years has been Rupees 22½ lakhs. This sum must not be exceeded without the concurrence of the Political Agent.

XXVII.—From the date on which these rules are brought into force the Political Agent shall not exercise any direct control over ordinary financial affairs, but he shall be empowered to call for any State accounts, and, should he see necessity to interfere, should do so, reporting the same for the information and orders of the Governor-General's Agent.

The Political Agent should further, in communication with the Durbar, make an Annual Report on the financial condition of the State.

159. In conformity with this scheme, the management of the country was made over to the young Maharaja by Captain Walter in open Durbar on the 10th June 1869.

160. His Highness' only son and heir died at Puteeala on the 5th December 1869 from pneumonia.

161. The Maharaja sustained a second bereavement soon after in the loss of the Maharanee, who died at the same place on the 17th February last from a complication of diseases.

162. There have been some differences of opinion between the Chief and the Political Agent in consequence of the former desiring to prohibit Sirdars of every rank and generally all persons of consequence from visiting the Residency without special permission from the Durbar.

163. This State was honored by a visit from His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. An official Report, which was promised by Captain J. Blair, was not received before his death, and cannot now be looked for, but I know that His Highness dispensed the hospitalities of his home in a manner which did credit to his education, and have won the approval of his own subjects and of the European officers with whom he is brought in contact.

KEROWLEE.

164. In the Administration Report for 1868-69 I mentioned that Government had been pleased to grant the Maharaja a loan of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees to enable him to carry out a number of public works he had planned for the relief of his famine-stricken subjects. In July last His Highness asked for a further loan of Rupees 50,000 in order to thoroughly complete the above-mentioned undertakings. This further advance was granted on the understanding that the total loan of Rupees 2 lakhs was to bear interest at 5 per cent. per annum, and be repaid by annual instalments of Rupees 50,000, commencing from this year.

165. Maharaja Muddon Pal died in August 1869: the next heir, Luchmun Pal, died of fever on 14th September 1869, and the question of succession was delayed owing to the supposed pregnancy of the second Ranee, known as the "Buswa" Ranee.

The last Report on this subject has only lately been sent to Government.

ULWUR.

166. In a former Report I had occasion to mention the absence of all intelligence and complaint from this State. No information was ever sent to the Vakeel in attendance on me, nor did the Maharao Raja ever communicate with me regarding the internal management of the State. These facts I viewed with suspicion, and, consequently, the sudden rising of the Thakoors in March, of whose grievances and intentions

I had heard nothing until they were up in arms and in open rebellion, did not altogether surprise me.

167. There are a group of 12 villages situated between the Ulwur and Jeypore border near Rajgurih, known as the Dorajah villages, which have for years past been held in joint tenure by these two States of Jeypore and Ulwur, each receiving half their revenue. This dual Government led to innumerable petty quarrels and mutual complaints; consequently, at the request of His Highness the Maharaja of Jeypore, in which the Chief of Ulwur subsequently joined, I determined to have them examined with a view to dividing them equally between the two States. Mr. Abbott, Officiating Assistant Governor-General's Agent, was sent to the spot, and the preliminary investigation and survey have been completed. The preparation of maps and the replies of the Durbars with reference to a detached portion of land are awaited before a decision can be pronounced.

168. In consequence of a clause in the agreement between the Ulwur Durbar and the Raja of Neemrana it was found necessary to determine the boundaries of the Neemrana estate. The limits of that portion of it lying round the town of Neemrana were laid down by the late Captain J. Blair, assisted by Mr. Abbott, and the surveys of the three outlying portions have been completed by the latter officer.

169. His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, after visiting Bhurtpore and Deeg, spent a few days in this territory. From the same unfortunate circumstances as in the case of Bhurtpore, I am not aware of the details of His Royal Highness' reception, but I know that the Rao Raja spared nothing to make it worthy of his distinguished guest.

DHOLEPORE.

170. Her Majesty the Queen was pleased to appoint His Highness the Rana to be a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

171. It being inconvenient to hold an investiture, I was directed to adopt measures for the suitable presentation of the Insignia to the Rana.

172. I deputed the Officiating Political Agent, Eastern States, to perform this duty, which was done on the 6th December 1869 at a special Durbar held at Bhurtpore, immediately after which His Highness the Rana proceeded to Calcutta to be present at the reception of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

173. As reported by me last May, there is a dispute of considerable magnitude regarding the estate of Jhirree, which has been going on for very many years past between the Dholepore and Kerowlee Durbars. It comprises several villages. The settlement has been advanced a stage, but its final disposal has been delayed by the deaths of the Maharaja of Kerowlee and the Officiating Political Agent.

174. The Statement below given shows the work of the different Courts of Vakeels in Rajpootana for the past year :—

| AGENCY. | Number of cases pending at beginning of year. | Number of cases instituted during year. | Total. | Number of cases disposed of during year. | Number of cases pending at close of year. | Total amount of decrees awarded. | Number of appeals to higher Court. |
|------------------|---|---|--------|--|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> | |
| Oodeypore | 63 | 110 | 173 | 156 | 22 | 17,390 0 0 | 14 |
| Jeypore | 43 | 103 | 151 | 129 | 22 | 43,760 9 9 | 13 |
| Marwar | 102 | 235 | 427 | 303 | 124 | 36,107 10 1 | 9 |
| Harnotee | 11 | 169 | 180 | 138 | 42 | 16,651 8 1 | 6 |
| Total | 319 | 617 | 936 | 726 | 210 | 1,15,909 11 11 | 42 |

175. Rupees 1,04,848 are due on account of awards by the Marwar Court to the Marwar Agency Treasurer. Of this sum Jeysulmere owes Rupees 9,622, and Biccaneere Rupees 30,004. The former has paid nothing for eight years, and the last payment made by the latter, except a few trifling sums, was in 1858.

176. Rupees 65,938-13-6 are also due on account of the Jeypore Court's awards to the Jeypore Agency Treasurer.

177. In concluding this Report, the last I can expect to submit in my present capacity for several years, I must express to Government the high opinion I entertain of the gentlemen who form the staff of the Rajpootana Political Department. There may have been a period when the officers accredited to Native Courts enjoyed the blessing of considerable leisure, but now any Political Agent who really desires to perform his duty has his time most amply occupied. Almost every paper that comes before him requires special consideration, and he must be continuously on the watch against the systematic misrepresentation and intrigue to which he is subjected.

178. It is only in the Political Department that a Judge is forced in the performance of his duty to associate on terms of intimacy with the very persons who are parties to suits in his Court. But such is the case.

179. The value of the questions which come to Political Agents for arbitration are enormous compared even to the civil litigation of the Presidency Courts. There are few of these cases in which some leading member of the Durbar is not deeply interested, and he alone is a fit representative of the department who can meet such men with cordiality almost daily in the performance of duty and in the ceremonies of a Native Court, and at the same time keep his mind unbiassed regarding the issue before him.

180. Self-reliance, a high-toned morality, and a judicial mind are, then, the qualifications which, above all others, are required in a Political Agent: before them all linguistic or departmental accomplishments are insignificant. Where the qualifications I have enumerated are wanting, the fact is soon apparent in the acrimonious appeals and accusations which inundate Government and the head of the local department.

181. The absence of such appeals and the tone of the decisions I have reviewed during my three years' tenure of office force upon me the conviction that Government is well served by its officers in Rajpootana generally, and I commend to its notice with confidence a body of gentlemen with whom I shall always count it a high honor to have been associated.

182. The following are the names of the incumbents of the several posts of importance during 1869-70 :—

Colonel J. C. Brooke, Offg. Political Agent, Marwar and Jeysulmere.

Lieutenant-Colonel Nixon, Political Agent, Meywar.

Lieutenant W. Muir, Officiating Political Agent, Haraotee.

Major Beynon, and afterwards

Captain Bradford, as Political Agents in Jeypore and Kishengurh.

The late Captain James Blair, Political Agent in the Eastern States.

Captain Percy Powlett in Biccaneere as Asstt. Govr.-Genl.'s Agent.

Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Blair, on Special Duty in Tonk, and

Capt. Baylay, in charge of Sirohi and the Magisterial duties of Aboo.

183. The officers who have worked with me personally are—

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Lieutenant M. H. Court, | | Lieutenant Burton, and |
| | | Lieutenant Abbott. |

Mr. Framjee Beekajee proceeded to Banswarra during the year as Assistant Political Agent after a long and honorable service in the Head-Quarter's Office.

184. It has, I think, fallen to Colonel Brooke and Major Beynon, in negotiating the Salt Treaties, to perform the most important services to Government; and to Captain Percy Powlett no slight credit is due for the settlement between the Maharaja of Biccaneere and his Nobles.

185. I should be wrong in this list to omit the names of the Officers Commanding the three local corps, as the feeling of the wild tribes in the neighbourhood of their stations is most seriously affected by everything that passes in the regimental lines. Of these the most important position is held by Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie, who has throughout the year commanded the Meywar Bheel Corps. Next to him I would bring to notice Major Carnell, Commanding the Erinpoora Irregular Force, and, lastly, Captain Clay, Commanding the Deolee Irregular Force.

186. In confirmation of the high sense of duty I have ascribed to the officers of the Agency generally, I may mention that from the date of their formation these corps have never until now been officially inspected by a General Officer, and the result shows that the confidence Government has so long reposed in its local officers has not been misplaced.

MEYWAR AGENCY REPORT.

No. 56-10P., dated 16th May 1870.

From—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. P. NIXON, Political Agent, Meywar.

To—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Governor-General's Agent, Rajpootana.

I HAVE the honor to report on the affairs of Oodeypore for the past year, and to state that, with a view of encouraging the young Maharana Shumbhoo Singh to deal with the affairs of his principality in that spirit of progress and good government desired by the British authorities, I suggested to him the desirability of himself writing a review of his proceedings during the past year, and beg to submit a translation of this document for submission to His Excellency the Viceroy. An exposition of their own affairs by one of the Rulers in Rajpootana will, I trust, be acceptable. This document is marked A.

2. Before making any remark on the proceedings of this year, I shall review what has been done consequent on the Report made by Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson dated 31st May 1869, No. 72-17P.

3. In paragraphs 4 and 5 of that letter Colonel Hutchinson characterizes the Government of Meywar as a despotic one, and pointed out that the whole of the civil and criminal jurisdiction was in the hands of the Prime Minister. Government, in their letter from the Foreign Department No. 1396, dated 29th September 1869, considered that some reform might be introduced by which the administration should not be made to depend exclusively on the health or inclination of the Ruler.

4. I am now happy to be able to state that His Highness the Maharana, in compliance with the wishes of Government, has established regular Criminal and Civil Courts, giving the presiding officers certain criminal and judicial powers, which are detailed in the documents marked B. and C., and are attached to this letter.

5. A very respectable Mahomedan gentleman has been appointed to the Criminal Court. His powers are for the present limited to imprisonment for one year, with leave to fine to the extent of Rupees 500 : these powers are to be extended hereafter. We may consider it a step in advance, having an official with independent powers acting by himself uncontrolled by the Minister of the day. In the Civil Court Darogah Arjoon Singh will preside, having authority to decide cases amounting to Rupees 2,000, and with powers to fine to the extent of Rupees 100.

6. I regret to say that the Code of Judicial Law has not as yet been promulgated. There has been considerable opposition towards the adoption of a regular written code of laws. The petty Sirdars of Meywar are averse to it on the ground that the Hindoo Dhurm Shasters should be the sole guide to all criminal law. But the petty Chiefs of all Rajpootana are more or less struggling against their Rulers, either openly or covertly, to prevent their Chiefs from exercising a full and legitimate criminal jurisdiction over their lawless proceedings and divested of all verbiage. The real cause of all the disputes that go on between the

Rulers and their Sirdars arises from the opposition of the Sirdars to be subjected to a proper criminal supervision.

7. The Sirdars desire to retain irresponsible criminal and civil jurisdiction in their own hands, and the Durbars are continually endeavouring to restrict their action owing to the pressure we exercise in the ends of good government. The chief object aimed at by the Sirdars is to enjoy immunity for the violent and lawless acts they are in the habit of committing, or, at all events, allow their dependants to commit, and with whom they share the spoil. I conceive that we should by all legitimate means endeavour to strengthen the hands of the Rulers of these States so long as they do their best to govern their subjects in accordance with the advice of the British Government, in order that they may be able to hold their Sirdars in proper subjection; but in most instances we follow precisely an opposite course. We know that the Durbars are not engaged in crimes of violence, whilst we are fully aware that it is exceptional for the petty Sirdars to refrain from these acts. At all events, the facts cannot be concealed that the petty Sirdars of these territories are not responsible for their proceedings to us, and they evade or ignore their responsibilities to their Rulers.

8. To ensure a proper supervision of the acts of the petty Sirdars, as a preliminary step I would recommend that a Durbar official should reside permanently on their estates to report on their criminal and illegal proceedings.

9. Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson, in paragraph 6 of the last Annual Report, remarks on the Maharana being upon bad terms with his Sirdars. I cannot confirm this statement, as they seem to me to be very fond of him personally, but they, I believe, do dislike his yielding himself to our guidance. The Maharana is far more enlightened than the people over whom he rules, who, one and all, cling to antiquated customs, and they fear the power which his high ability confers. He stands alone, surrounded by a turbulent set of Sirdars, and were he to attempt to chastise one of their class for any evil deed that might have been committed, the others would doubtless coalesce to defeat the ends of justice: this practice is time-honored in Rajpootana. Certainly the present Maharana of Meywar is more popular with all classes than the last three of his predecessors; indeed, there is no reason why it should be otherwise, as the Maharana is not in the habit of oppressing his subjects.

10. Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson, in paragraph 7 of his Annual Report, makes allusion to a person named Zalim Singh, and seems to think he was an evil adviser. In a Native Court a man who is supposed to be a favourite is sure to have many enemies, and he is generally particularly obnoxious to the Minister of the day, and as this man held an independent Police charge, he was not liked by the petty Sirdars. Still he did a great deal of good service by keeping in check the predatory classes who infest Meywar. His chief merit, however, consisted in his attachment to our Government, and whatever advice he may have given to the Maharana, his voice always encouraged an adherence to the advice given by the British officer at the Court. I regret to say that Zalim Singh has since died.

11. Reference was also made to a religious ascetic, who was said to have acquired an undue influence over the mind of the Maharana.

This man was at last ejected from the capital by His Highness' orders, he having been discovered to be an impostor.

12. In paragraph 24 of the last Annual Report the question of the revenue system in vogue in Meywar was fully discussed. The system is primitive and patriarchal, and there are very few complaints between landlord and tenant. The mode of collection is also very popular, for the Durbars always permit remissions in bad seasons whilst exacting its full dues in good ones. The village communities have the administration of their own petty affairs, both civil and municipal, the elders being held responsible for all crimes committed within the limits of their villages.

13. The Maharana of Oodeypore contemplates the introduction of a regular and systematic revenue settlement of his territories, and next cold weather a boundary settlement will be commenced as the usual preliminary. This measure is, however, opposed by the Durbar officials, and is looked upon as an innovation; it will doubtless bring some delinquencies to light, but will be a great gain to the Durbar, and will regulate all demands upon the agricultural classes and prevent undue exactions, which are apt to occur when the Durbar is lax in its supervision over its officials.

14. The road between Nusseerabad and Neemuch is progressing. It is essentially a military road constructed for imperial purposes to connect the above-named stations. The Maharana of Oodeypore has paid Rupees 1,30,000 towards its construction, and he has still Rupees 50,000 to pay for this object. There seems to be very little traffic along the line as far as Bheelwarra, which is open. I believe this is because it passes through a country in which there are very few villages, and therefore the old road is preferred and adhered to by travellers.

15. The construction of a line of road from Oodeypore to Kherwarra has recently been commenced, and about 8 miles from the capital southwards will shortly be opened for traffic. The old line of road for about 24 miles after leaving Oodeypore is extremely hilly and difficult, but the new line is more level, shorter, and easier. The advantage to be derived from opening this road is considerable, and Meywar will soon contribute its cotton to the Bombay market. Everything is being done to push on this work, in which the Maharana himself evinces much interest.

16. In my letter No. 21-2P., dated 7th March 1870, I reported in detail my views on the hilly tracts of Meywar. I there pointed out that the territories of the Grassia Chiefs on the southern and western borders of Meywar were under the superintendence of the 1st and 2nd Assistants of this Agency in all criminal matters, but that the petty Sirdars in the hilly tracts were under the direct authority of the Durbar: latterly all cases in which the Grassia Chiefs have been concerned have been adjudicated by the Assistants of this Agency. It is quite necessary that the Grassias and Bheels should be made to pay for all the excesses they commit across the border, and unless this is effectually carried out, their predatory habits will not be checked. Hitherto it has been customary for our officers to complain of the inefficiency of the Durbar officials and ascribe all the disorder that occurs to their acts. I now propose to hold the British officers located in those parts more directly responsible. The Bheels are, however, a very troublesome race, and the progress of reform is necessarily slow.

17. During the last cold weather 164 cases were settled by Captain Battye and Captain Phillips in the border disputes between Meywar and the Mahee Kanta by arbitration, and awards were given against Meywar amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 6,654-3-11. The Oodeypore Durbar usually recover these awards from the delinquents, but as their officials are represented to act with harshness, I have requested the 2nd Assistant Political Agent to take measures for the recovery of these sums in order that there may be no further complaints of oppression.

18. Notwithstanding the severe famine that has afflicted these territories during the past year, there has been no excessive crime. Not so, however, with the Mhair population of the Muggra Mhairwarra of Meywar. These people have been under our management for nearly half a century, and we were in hopes that we had reclaimed them entirely, but their predatory instincts broke out at the first pressure of want, and they plundered and committed a deal of mischief in Meywar; however, as the famine is now abating, it is to be hoped we shall hear no more of their aggressions, and that they will return to peaceful pursuits.

19. I beg to append a Report* from Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie,

1st Assistant Political Agent, Meywar,
* Marked D. No. 118P., dated 10th instant. This officer

gives his views in detail on the hilly tracts of Meywar and his proceedings in reference to the settlement of international disputes between Meywar and the adjacent principalities, which, I trust, you will be able to commend. I would draw especial attention to the report made by Brigadier-General Montgomery, C.S.I., on the efficiency and high state of discipline of the Meywar Bheel Corps, which reflects high credit upon Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie and the Officers under his command. The Meywar Durbar contributes Rupees 50,000 annually for the support of this corps, which is trained and disciplined by us in Meywar territory.

20. During the past year an Agency for the weighment of opium has been instituted at Oodeypore. Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson advised the Durbar to apply for scales to be opened here, as he estimated that 6,000 chests of opium would be weighed during the current year. Only 444 chests of opium have, however, been brought forward to be weighed. You are aware that the opium undergoes a process of manufacture before it is sent to the sea-coast, and this process is a source of considerable profit to those who are engaged in it. A new emporium being established here has caused considerable annoyance to the merchants at Oojein and Indore, as it is likely to lessen their profits. In consequence, I believe, they combined to withhold the opium from coming to the scales at Indore, Oojein, and Oodeypore for a short time. As Maharajas Scindia and Holkar are supposed to give the opium merchants advances of money and are indirectly engaged in this trade, they are virtually able to restrict our opium revenue.

21. The advantages offered by the establishment of scales for the weighment of opium at Oodeypore cannot be ignored, as the merchants who send the drug by the Oodeypore route are relieved from the numerous exactions levied as a tax on opium in the petty States of Central India. After leaving Oodeypore the merchants have only to pass through the two Native States of Doongurpore and Edur before entering British territory. Moreover, Oodeypore is only 150 miles from the

railway terminus at Ahmedabad. The road from Oodeypore, however, is hilly and difficult, but this will be remedied as soon as possible by the construction of a good road.

22. A certain quantity of opium has hitherto been manufactured at Oodeypore for transmission into the Native States of Marwar and Katteeawar, as also to our province of Scinde, and it is believed that a quantity of the opium that passes out in that direction ultimately finds its way to Bombay. It is quite worth while to smuggle even a small quantity of opium to evade the payment of our duty, which amounts to Rupees 600 per chest.

23. We shall eventually have to initiate some measure to prevent opium being smuggled into Guzerat from Meywar and Malwa, which is carried on more or less through the petty States of Doongurpore and Banswarra. I have directed the Assistant at Banswarra to intimate to the British authorities in Guzerat all that he hears regarding the passage of opium through these territories.

24. The process of preparation or manufacture of opium for the Bombay market and that for Western and Northern Rajpootana is almost identical, the only difference being that the drug is adulterated less and worked up into another shape for the Bombay market; it is made into balls for the Bombay market and into cakes for the country market. I take the opportunity of drawing attention to the fact that the Opium Agency at Oodeypore is paid for by the Meywar Durbar. This is rather unusual, as it is established to collect our opium revenue.

Army.

25. The army of the Oodeypore Durbar is being put upon a more efficient footing. A great number of the horsemen previously only received 14 Oodeypooree Rupees a month. Most of these men have either been discharged or re-enlisted on Rupees 20 per mensem. The foot regiments are also being properly drilled, armed, and reorganized. The numerical strength of the army amounts to 1,152 horsemen and 3,694 footmen, and costs annually Rupees 6,32,402.

Dispensaries.

26. The working of the two dispensaries at Oodeypore, main and branch, has been satisfactory. During the past year 6,895 patients were treated and 858 vaccinated at a cost of Rupees 4,693, against 5,451 treated and 537 vaccinated at a cost of Rupees 3,232 in 1868. Dr. Galloway was in medical charge up to 11th December 1869, when Dr. Cunningham, the permanent incumbent, took charge on his return from furlough. Great credit is due to Dr. Galloway for his zeal and energy in the trying period of famine and cholera, which prevailed here from July to September. The measures adopted for feeding the starving at the Hospital and distributing both personally and by Agents aid to the cholera-stricken in the city and district ought to go far towards popularizing the institution. Twenty-one important and 315 minor operations were performed, all terminating successfully. The Native Doctors are reported to have been attentive to their duties and regular in their conduct.

Jails.

27. The jails are well kept and very clean. The prisoners are properly clothed and cared for, and are employed chiefly in making roads. There were 209 prisoners confined in the jails during the past year, and 13 of them died. Five of these, however, died from Asiatic cholera.

Schools.

28. The school at Oodeypore has during the past year been placed under Mr. Ingels, the Assistant Opium Agent; it has fallen off somewhat of late in the attendance of pupils: this is especially remarkable in the number of girls attending.

Tribute.

29. The tribute of Oodeypore has been paid regularly up to date. The annual contribution for the support of the Meywar Bheel Corps, which is collected from the revenue of the Meywar Muggra Mhairwarra territory, is held in deposit in the Ajmere Treasury by accumulation of former years.

Harvests.

30. The harvest during the past year has been a very good one, but notwithstanding this, the prices for grain still rule high: this is always the case in Meywar: it being an opium-producing country, the people pay more attention to the cultivation of the poppy than the production of food. I regret to hear the yield of opium has been very scanty in parts of Meywar.

Locusts.

31. Locusts made their appearance in the northern part of Meywar during the months of September and October, and did considerable damage to the crops. This was felt as very disheartening, following as it did so immediately on the famine that had desolated the country.

Post Offices.

32. A new Post Office has been opened at Neembahera during the present year, and I am happy to be able to record that there has not been a single robbery of our mails during the same period. One of the men accompanying the mails was killed by a "man-eating" tiger, and two others were wounded, but the tiger has been since destroyed.

33. I trust you will be able to record your approval to the work performed by the Meywar International Court during the past year.

| | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| On the 1st April 1869 the balance of International cases amounted to | ... | 68 |
| There were instituted during the current year | ... | 110 |
| Total | ... | 178 |
| Number of cases settled up to 1st April 1870... | ... | 156 |
| Balance to be disposed of on the 1st April 1870 | ... | 22 |

Decrees amounting to Rupees 17,390 have been awarded as compensation for losses, and appeals have been made against 14 decisions.

34. Meywar has within its boundaries the territories of Tonk and the Jawud Neemuch dominions belonging to Gwalior. The feeling between the authorities of Tonk and Meywar has been better latterly. In like manner there have been fewer aggressions from Jawud Neemuch on Meywar than there used to be formerly, but I have had once or twice to complain to the Political Agent, Gwalior, that Scindia's officials are in the habit of seizing Meywar people and punishing them, instead of sending them for trial before the International Court of this Agency, as is prescribed by Treaty.

35. In the previous Agency Report, forwarded by Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson, that officer speaks of His Highness the Maharana of Oodeypore as a "Prince willing to introduce reforms, and, above all, evinces a marked desire to meet the wishes of the British Government and to promote the welfare of his subjects."

36. This character, as above recorded, has been amply borne out by His Highness' conduct during the past year. Although Meywar during that period was not actually afflicted with famine, yet it underwent a season of great scarcity. The dire distress in the neighbouring territories and the exodus consequent thereon threw a famine-stricken multitude into Meywar, and the capital was overrun with thousands of poor wretches who were not only starving, but perishing with disease engendered by want. Aided by the advice of Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson, and actuated by his own good heart, the Maharana of Oodeypore instituted large measures of relief that fully met the grave crisis with which he had to deal, and by his munificence saved the lives of thousands.

37. It was fortunate that the Meywar Government had been provident and that the granaries at the capital were fully stocked: had this not been the case, no amount of money could have saved the lives of the starving multitude. The number of people supplied with food at Oodeypore alone amounted to 1,163,766, and Rupees 50,084-4 was expended thereon. Besides this, large measures of relief were carried out in the chief cities in the territory.

38. During the past year His Highness the Maharana was sadly afflicted with "fistula," which confined him to his bed for five months. Doctor Cunningham, writing on this subject, remarks in his letter dated the 21st February 1870:—"I have the pleasure to report that His Highness the Maharana has now completely recovered from the illness with which he has been afflicted since the 19th September last. The bearing of His Highness throughout this most painful and harassing illness, when he was not only afflicted with the malady itself, but subjected to repeated disappointments from unsuccessful operations, was worthy of the highest praise. His fortitude under suffering and operation, his patience and endurance under long-continued confinement, and the unfailing amiability of temper that he displayed under these most adverse circumstances, show him to be possessed of many excellent qualities, such as do credit to the high position he occupies."

39. In your letter No. 490, dated 23rd April 1870, you have called for a Report on paragraphs 5, 47, 77, and 89 of the last Annual Report from this Office. In reply, I beg to state that paragraph 5 of the previous Report refers to the laws administered by this Durbar.

At present no new code of law has been promulgated, but the rules furnished by you have been translated into Hindee by Mr. Ingels, and are under deliberation. I shall do all in my power to obtain a written code of laws for Meywar, but it requires both time and patience to introduce reforms into a Native State, although the Ruler may be inclined to follow our advice. I have no doubt, however, that the code of laws will be issued shortly.

40. The next subject referred to in paragraph 47 of the previous Report is the great work of the Debur Lake. I think the Durbar is not desirous of incurring any outlay on this work at present. It was constructed by the former Rulers of Meywar at great cost, but it now appears that the greater proportion of the lands irrigated from this expanse of water are now owned by the feudatory Chiefs, and not by the Durbar. I have not visited the locality for a very long time, but you have been there so recently that you will be able to speak to the advantages to be derived by the Durbar in repairing this noble work.

41. Paragraph 77 of the last Annual Report refers to the establishment of a Post Office at Pertabgurh. This desirable scheme has fallen through owing to the Pertabgurh Chief having declined to bear the expense.

42. The construction of bunds in 23 villages of Doongurpore forms the subject discussed in paragraph 89 of the previous Report. I have no detailed information on this head, although the matter is alluded to in the Report on Doongurpore furnished by Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie and attached to this letter, marked G.

43. The Pergunnah of Neembahera, belonging to Tonk, situated in the middle of Meywar, has been fairly administered during the past year. The officer selected by the Tonk Durbar for this duty, named Sadut Alli Khan, seems to have kept a better supervision and check over the dacoits and predatory classes that infest that part of the country than his predecessors in office.

PERTABGURH.

44. The administration of this principality has not given satisfaction. A new Minister, named Oonkar Byas, was appointed last year with Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson's sanction, and that officer had a good opinion of the man, but he does not seem to me to have managed as well as was anticipated. He has discharged nearly all the former Tehseeldars and Thannadars, and apprehension is felt that the State is getting into debt. I transmit a Statement of the revenue and expenditure of this Durbar, marked H., but I do not place much reliance on these accounts. The harvest has been very good during the past year.

DOONGURPORE.

45. I enclose a Report, furnished by Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie, 1st Assistant Political Agent, Meywar, No. 111, dated 2nd May 1870, on the Doongurpore State, which is satisfactory. The Maharawul, Oodey Singh, of Doongurpore takes a great interest in the government of his country, and is aided therein by Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie, who has considerable influence with the Chief. This excellent officer's services will, doubtless, secure your commendation.

BANSWARRA.

46. I beg to enclose a Report on the Banswarra State by Mr. Framjee Beekajee,* which will, I hope, be read with interest; it exposes the state of affairs there, and I have no doubt that in a short time that principality will be better governed, as the Maharawal, Lutchmun Singh, is both able and industrious. You will, however, be able to record your impressions regarding him, as you have so recently visited Banswarra.

47. I omitted to mention that the Maharana of Oodeypore had established a dispensary at Kherwarra during the past year.

48. In conclusion, I would record my belief that affairs in this part of Rajpootana are slowly improving; there is less violent crime, although the past year was a year of famine, and the Rulers of these States are gradually becoming more enlightened and more conscious of their responsibilities to their subjects and ourselves: the progress they are making, however, is slow and scarcely perceptible, but not the less sure.

49. The rain-fall during the past year was 37 inches 770 cents.

50. A Statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Oodeypore Durbar is appended, marked J.

Appendix A.

Administration Report of the Oodeypore State by the Minister of the Durbar,—
dated 1st May 1870.

1. The entire revenue of the State for the Sumbut 1926 was Rupees 23,77,935-0-3, and the whole expenditure Rupees 26,15,978-7-3. In consequence of the famine this year the income of the State was considerably reduced, and the outlay in every way increased: such cultivators as were unable to pay up the land revenue had easy terms granted them for future payment; and such as stood in need of it were further allowed grain for the support of themselves and families, as well as for seed. By such measures, which were of necessity, there has been an outstanding balance left due to the State of Rupees 4,39,640-14-2, and a dead loss of Rupees 6,77,684-5-2, whereas in former years there used to be a surplus of income over expenditure, which is not the case this year, but the reverse.

2. Though there was famine in Meywar this year, yet the suffering from it was not so severe as in other places, but the loss of cattle for want of grass has certainly been great, and the more to be deplored, as, in consequence, the atmosphere becoming impure, cholera and fevers broke out, and from these dire diseases about two or two and a half thousand human beings perished.

3. In the commencement of the year for 20 or 25 days there was great scarcity of grain, but arrangements were immediately made, and grain was procured. This was effected by reducing for good the duty paid by Sahoo-kars to the State on the condition that they should import grain to avert the evils of the then present famine, and those who did so were, moreover, rewarded with presents in token of the approbation of the Durbar. During the year of scarcity the duty on grain was entirely remitted, though in consequence there was a loss incurred of a lakh of rupees. The cold weather crops were increased by cultivation being encouraged in the beds of tanks from which the water had dried, and by supplying, so far as practicable, water to fields by means of drains from lakes and tanks. As anticipated, the returns were very good. It was fortunate that to start with there was a large supply of grain in the State Kothar, and this was at once opened to meet the wants of the people till more could be procured. If at that juncture there had not been this supply present, no grain could have been got for love or money, and the suffering would have been very great. However, the result of the arrangements made to keep up a supply were successful, and the rates of grain in those days were kept down to Government seers seven of wheat per Government Rupee and barley and Indian corn to $8\frac{1}{2}$ seers.

4. The poor who were unable to maintain themselves during the famine were fed at Oodeypore, and also in the pergunnahs, with cooked food at dole houses established for them, in excess of the existing fixed places where "Suddaburt," or charity in food, is always dispensed to the poor, and in this manner thousands of persons were kept alive who would otherwise have surely perished. In thus dispensing food to the indigent, about Rupees 80,000 were spent, and it

is reckoned that, in excess of the number of poor who usually received "Suddaburt," or food in charity, about 1,932,920 persons of both sexes were fed at the expense of the State. The Sirdars or Chiefs also dispensed food in charity on their estates, but though it is not clear how much each spent, yet it appears that the aggregate amount spent by them could not have been less than Rupees 50,000.

5. With the view of assisting the poor during the famine and utilizing their labour, Public Works were undertaken both at the capital and in the pergunnahs, and about 421,416 persons were employed on them at a cost of Rupees 1,77,041-7-6. In some places Public Works are yet continued.

6. In A.D. 1869 Government Rupees 1,20,000 were contributed for the new road between Mhow and Nusseerabad, and during the present year Government Rupees 5,000 for the same purpose monthly.

7. The crop of Indian corn was very fair, notwithstanding that locusts caused considerable loss to it in the pergunnahs, the present price of which is Government seers $9\frac{1}{2}$ per Government Rupee, and barley and Indian corn Government seers 15. It is hoped that the next cold weather crop will give a better yield than the last did.

8. The lakes and tanks have more water than they had the preceding year, but they were not quite filled in the last rains, and compared with other years, they want one-third of the usual supply of water.

9. Towards Kherwarra the Bheels among the hills revolted and commenced a course of robbery and depredations, but, in accordance with the advice of Colonel Mackenzie, troops were sent to coerce them, and in some villages where they showed fight they were well punished and order was restored. Since new arrangements have been made in those parts, the Civil and Criminal Courts, which were formerly under one officer, have been separated and placed under two. Thannahs have been established in those villages that revolted; a superior officer was appointed to go round and supervise the thannahs, and troops were placed at his disposal. In consequence of these arrangements the expenditure in those parts has considerably increased.

10. There always was in the State a system of thannahs and criminal jurisdiction for the protection of the people, but this has been remodelled, and one officer has been appointed over the Criminal Courts both of the capital and districts, who is invested with authority to award punishment to the extent of one year's imprisonment and fine of Rupees 500, and all the thannahdars as well as the supervising officer have been placed under him. In the same way the Civil Court has been remodelled, and the presiding officer has been invested with authority to dispose of cases to the extent of Rupees 2,000 and to levy fines up to Rupees 100.

Codes of Civil and Criminal Laws are also being prepared.

11. On the estates of the Sirdars or Chiefs there are no arrangements whatever for the administration of civil and criminal law, though the Durbar is of opinion that there certainly should be, notwithstanding that the Sirdars object to it. There are innumerable cases of complaints against Sirdars for debt and oppression, and in every instance of this kind, as well as in the summoning of criminals, the Sirdars take shelter under the plea of old-established customs, and

the right they have hitherto enjoyed of affording protection to any delinquents who seek it from them. This right of affording sanctuary has long since been revoked as unreasonable, and even in the Treaty (though it was always considered void and never acted on) between the Durbar and Sirdars, as proposed by General Lawrence in the 16th paragraph, the Durbar strongly objected to it. The Durbar is desirous of making some arrangements whereby justice shall be meted out on the estates of the Sirdars, and they will no longer have the power to shelter the evil-disposed, and till this has been effected, no proper authority or government can be attained in the State: but up to the present nothing definite has been done in the matter, lest the Sirdars appeal to the British Government against such measures as may be adopted to constrain them.

12. To make the executive branch of Government more efficient, 500 cavalry at Rupees 26 each per month and 1,000 foot at Rupees 8 each have been entertained in excess of what were employed before.

13. The road to Kherwarra is being made, and is ready as far as Kaiah, which is four coss from Oodeypore.

14. An important case, that of the succession to the Chiefship of Bagore, was under consideration, and has been finally decided. Sohun Singh was the rightful heir to the gadee, because Sumrut Singh whilst alive had, with the consent of the Maharana Suroop Singh, adopted him as his heir. Sukut Singh, who now lays claims to succeed Sumrut Singh, has no right whatever, as during the life of Maharana Suroop Singh the matter was settled agreeably to the custom of the country and the Hindoo religion. Sohun Singh, the adopted heir, can therefore by no means be displaced. But with the view of affording maintenance to Sukut Singh it has been resolved to bestow a jaghire on him worth Rupees 12,000 out of the Bagore estate. He already enjoys land worth Rupees 5,000 out of the estate, and it is proposed to supplement his present income with land worth Rupees 7,000 more, so as to raise his jaghire to Rupees 12,000.

15. Agreeably to the wishes of the Agent of the Governor-General, Rajpootana, that the decision formerly come to respecting investing the Rawut of Deogurh with the sword should be abided by, the investiture has taken place.

Appendix B.

Translation of a Kyfeet from the Oodeypore Durbar, to LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. P. NIXON, Political Agent, Meywar,—dated 30th March 1870.

THIS day the Maharana of Oodeypore has directed that new arrangements be made in the Criminal Court at Oodeypore by giving the Criminal Court Officers certain powers, and a code of laws is necessary; therefore the whole of the criminal work of the country, and also of the city, is hereby given in charge to Moonshi Samin Alli Khan, and he is for the present empowered to fine to the extent of Rupees 500 and imprisonment for one year, and it is intimated that arrangements for framing a code of laws are being made; when they are ready they will be promulgated: until that time affairs will be conducted as usual, and

the Criminal Officer is directed to make report for the re-establishment of Police posts: this order is sent to the Minister to be carried out, and intimation thereof is also given to the Political Agent.

Appendix C.

Translation of a Kyfeent from the Oodeypore Durbar, to LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. P. NIXON, Political Agent, Meywar,—dated 30th March 1870.

THE Maharana of Oodeypore has this day directed that laws be laid down for the Civil Court at Oodeypore and certain powers be conferred on the officer in charge. Therefore the Darogah of the Civil Court is authorized to settle cases amounting to Rupees 2,000 and to fine to the extent of Rupees 100, and he is informed that a code of laws will be framed, and when they are ready they will be promulgated. Until they are issued matters will be conducted as usual, and he is to report on the whole of the civil jurisdiction of the country. The Minister is therefore written to to carry out this order, and intimation is given to you also.

Appendix D.

No. 118P., dated 10th May 1870.

From—LIEUT.-COL. A. M. MACKENZIE, Political Supdt., Hilly Tracts, Meywar.

To—LIEUT.-COL. J. P. NIXON, Political Agent in Meywar.

I HAVE the honor to submit the following Report on the Hilly Tracts of Meywar for the year 1869-70 :—

2. In March 1869 I reported to the Officiating Political Agent that the Hakim or Governor of the Hilly Tracts had represented to me that, owing to the growing insubordination of the Bheels of the Khalsah Pals, Nithara, Sirara, Bhoraie, Kurbur, and Dhunkawara, he was utterly incapable of preserving order or exercising any authority over them, and he urged the necessity for the infliction of severe punishment on one or more of the most defiant Pals. I supported the adoption of this measure, in the belief that a demonstration of the power of the Durbar to punish its refractory subjects would go far to check the evil, which had arisen from the apparent apathy of the administration, and that, should more severe steps prove necessary, a well-organized attack on one of the largest and worst of the Pals, Nithara for instance, would yield the best results. My view was that, after the Durbar had vindicated its authority by the just punishment of the rebellious tribes, a more humane and conciliatory policy should be initiated towards them, and carried out by more reliable officials than those to whom the management of the hilly tracts had hitherto been entrusted. It is due to His Highness the Maharana and his Minister to state that they fully entered into these views, and evinced every desire to inaugurate measures which, while restoring the prestige of the Durbar, and showing the Bheels that the day of reckoning, though long deferred, would surely follow the commission of crime,

would also inspire them with confidence in the justice of their Rulers. To this end a force of about two thousand men, composed of Durbar troops and the quotas of the local Chiefs, was assembled at Oodeypore, and on the 19th April 1869 entered the hilly tracts under the command of the late Rawut Zalim Singh of Bamalee, and the Pals of Nithara, Sirara, Kurbur, and Bhoraie were successively attacked. Little blood was shed on either side, the Durbar troops throughout the campaign losing only 4 killed and 12 wounded, and it was reported that 21 Bheels were killed and 49 wounded. According to their custom the Bheels fled to their hill fastnesses, but a season of unusual scarcity and sickness had the effect of speedily inducing their submission, when they were permitted to return to their Pals, and the Durbar Force was broken up early in June. The result has been most satisfactory, for immediately following on the infliction of punishment, steps were taken to separate the civil from the criminal jurisdiction by the appointment of Pundit Unund Rao to the charge of the former, and Mirza Ruheem Beg to the latter, and both officials have done well, added to which the humane and liberal measures adopted by the Maharana to mitigate the distress caused by the drought and famine seemed to meet with due appreciation on the part of the hill tribes, numbers of whom were provided with work, while many of the more indigent and infirm availed themselves of the relief houses. To these causes must be attributed the fact that crime has greatly diminished in the hilly tracts during the year under report,—a result which, considering the severe trial to which the wild tribes have been subjected by the famine, could hardly have been hoped for, and must prove a source of considerable satisfaction to the Durbar and Her Majesty's Government.

Relief Works.

3. The following relief works within the hilly tracts were sanctioned by the Durbar and have been carried out:—

Repairs to the Kutchery at Kherwarra,
 A granary at Jawud Adwas,
 A new tank at Sirara,
 Restoration of the Fort of Sirara,
 Ditto ditto Kullianpore,

and a tank at Burgong, the whole involving an expenditure of nearly Rupees 10,000.

4. I would here strongly recommend the restoration of the fort of Wulleecha, on the frontier between Meywar and Guzerat. It was built twenty years ago, and has contributed greatly to the preservation of peace and order on the border, but it has fallen into disrepair, and, if not restored at once, will shortly become a ruin. I have brought the subject to the notice of the Durbar, but I am not aware that any steps have been taken to put the fort in repair.

Harvest.

5. The spring or "Rube" crops in the hilly tracts for the year 1869 were fairly good as regards the extent of land cultivated, but owing to the drought this was considerably less than in ordinary seasons.

The rain crop ("Mukkee" or Indian corn) was generally excellent, and the present spring crops were abundant.

At this time last year the price of grain in the Kherwarra Bazar was as follows:—

| | | | <i>Seers.</i> | <i>Chittacks.</i> | |
|-----------|-----|-----|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Wheat | ... | ... | 10 | 0 | per Government Rupee. |
| Mukkee | ... | ... | 14 | 1 | ditto. |
| Barley | ... | ... | 15 | 0 | ditto. |
| Oord Dall | ... | ... | 8 | 12 | ditto. |
| Gram | ... | ... | 13 | 2 | ditto. |
| Rice | ... | ... | 7 | 3 | ditto. |

It gradually became dearer until the prices rose to—

| | | | <i>Seers.</i> | <i>Chittacks.</i> | |
|-----------|-----|-----|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Wheat | ... | ... | 5 | 15 | per Government Rupee. |
| Barley | ... | ... | 10 | 0 | ditto. |
| Mukkee | ... | ... | 13 | 12 | ditto. |
| Oord Dall | ... | ... | 10 | 0 | ditto. |
| Gram | ... | ... | 8 | 2 | ditto. |
| Rice | ... | ... | 6 | 4 | ditto. |

The present price current is as follows:—

| | | | <i>Seers.</i> | <i>Chittacks.</i> | |
|-----------|-----|-----|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Wheat | ... | ... | 14 | 11 | per Government Rupee. |
| Barley | ... | ... | 20 | 0 | ditto. |
| Mukkee | ... | ... | 17 | 8 | ditto. |
| Oord Dall | ... | ... | 12 | 8 | ditto. |
| Gram | ... | ... | 18 | 12 | ditto. |
| Rice | ... | ... | 7 | 8 | ditto. |

6. I should mention that the advance sanctioned by the Governor-General's Agent for the purchase of grain enabled me to lay in a considerable store, which not only kept down the prices for several months, during which the station was well supplied, but I was also able to distribute food to many who, from age and infirmity, or other causes, were unable to maintain themselves.

General health of the District.

7. The following memorandum by Assistant Surgeon T. Ffrench Mullen, M.D., in medical charge of the Meywar Bheel Corps, gives full information on this head:—

"The only circumstances worthy of note in the medical history of this station and surrounding district for the past year are the occurrence of epidemic cholera in May and June, and the very unusual prevalence and severity of malarial fever in September, October, and November.

"On the evening of the 24th May information reached the Station authorities that cholera had appeared at Doongurpore (the city of), some 14 miles from this, and towards the end of that week cases were reported

to have occurred in two Bheel villages situate within a mile and a half and two miles respectively of this station. Precautions were at once taken to prevent intercourse between Kherwarra and the infected city or villages. A Native Doctor with a supply of medicines visited each of the villages referred to daily, and his services were gladly availed of by the Bheel inhabitants.

"In Kherwarra itself the people were warned to attend at Hospital on the first appearance of diarrhœa, and the warning was acted upon, large numbers receiving medicine daily, by which promptitude, I firmly believe, numbers of lives were saved. But three cases of cholera occurred within cantonments, two of which recovered, while one died.

"In the two villages alluded to there were, during the period of attendance of the Native Doctor, 50 cases of fully developed Asiatic cholera, of which ten died, and 29 cases of so-called choleraic diarrhœa (which to my mind is the first stage of cholera), of which but one died.

"The unusual prevalence of paludal fever was due, I believe, to the heavy rain-fall, and especially to the fact of the heavy rain in October, a month in which, as a rule, but little falls."

8. Since my last Report a dispensary has been established at Kherwarra, to which His Highness the Maharana contributes an allowance of Rupees 40 per mensem. This, with such aid as I can afford from local funds, suffices to keep it in satisfactory working order. I look upon the establishment of this dispensary with much satisfaction and under Dr. Mullen's able and zealous management it will prove a great boon to the station and surrounding country, for the health of the civil population might at any moment have a serious influence on the sanitary condition of the regiment; and although this had been brought prominently to the notice of Medical authorities, sanction was withheld either to expend any portion of the medical supplies furnished for the use of the Regimental Hospital in the treatment of civil inhabitants, or to indent on the medical dépôt for a supply of medicines on payment.

Meteorological Observations.

9. I give below a summary of the meteorological observations taken during the year, and a Statement in the same form of the average results of the observations taken during the sixteen preceding years 1853 to 1868, both inclusive:—

| | Mean temperature of the year. | Hottest month and its mean. | Coldest month and its mean. | Mean daily range. | Extreme daily range. | Total Rain-fall. | Number of days rain fell. |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1869. | 80°02 | May. 95°17 | January. 67°02 | 13°20 | 55 | Inches, cents. 32 473 | 77 |
| Average of year 1853 to 1868. | 78°20 | May. 90°09 | January. 65°18 | 17 33 | | 26 22 | 50 |

BHOOMEAH CHIEFS.

10. Rawut Nahar Singh of Para died on the 17th October. He was an old man, and for the last two or three years had been totally blind, which infirmity was taken advantage of by the people about him, and the estate had latterly become embarrassed. He was succeeded by his grandson, Luchmon Singh, a lad of 14 years old, and on my recommendation an efficient Kamdar has been appointed to manage the estate under my supervision until the young Chief comes of age. A person in whom the boy's mother has confidence has been associated with the Kamdar, and there is every prospect of the arrangement working satisfactorily, and that by the time Rawut Luchmon Singh attains his majority the estate will be free of debt. The foreign mercenaries, to whom the large sum of Rupees 14,322 was due, have all been discharged, and arrangements have been made for paying them off by instalments.

There is nothing special to report regarding the other Chiefships.

THE MEYWAR BHEEL CORPS.

11. Under the recent orders of Government the corps was inspected last January by Brigadier-General G. S. Montgomery, C.S.I., Commanding at Neemuch, and the following letter from that officer to my address testifies to the high opinion he has formed of the regiment and the men composing it:—

“Dated 29th January 1870.

“From—BRIGDR.-GENL. MONTGOMERY, C.S.I., Commanding at Neemuch.

“To—LIEUT.-COL. A. M. MACKENZIE, Commandant, Meywar Bheel Corps.

“HAVING completed the inspection of the Meywar Bheel Corps under your command, I have great pleasure in thus conveying to you the opinion I have formed regarding it. I have seen a great deal to admire, and nothing to find fault with. The drill and discipline of your corps seem to be all that can be desired, and the very apparent spirit of cheerfulness and contentment that pervades all ranks impressed me most favourably, and assured me of the healthy state of feeling that must exist. Your movements on parade were steady, no shuffling in the ranks; the pace was good, and I never saw any regiment go past better at the double. There is a spring and life in the movements of the Bheels that shows they must take a pride in their work. My Report on your corps would be incomplete if I neglected to notice the games which followed the inspection. I think the institution by you of these games most praiseworthy, and the hearty way in which the Bheels join shows they are highly appreciated by them. I believe they will do more than merely amuse, for the people will think well of the officers who enter so cordially into their sports. The shooting for prizes will draw out skill in their weapons, and the other sports will draw out hearty manly qualities: such is sure to result from the example set the men by Captain Battye, and also Dr. Mullen.

“The corps was originated to introduce civilization amongst the Bheels, and I believe your management will tend to further that object and to make the Bheels appreciate serving under British officers.”

12. I beg to annex Major Mackeson's Report on the Kotrab District under his immediate supervision.

Annual Report of the Kotrah District for 1869-70.

Rain-fall.

1. A register of the fall of rain has not as yet been kept. But after last rains a pluviometer was obtained from Bombay by Captain Battye; consequently, the fall of rain will be gauged: but a register kept at Kotrah would never be a criterion of the fall of rain in the Kotrah District, for the camp is situated in a plain, and the rain-falls generally keep to the long range of hills that skirt the valleys which intersect the Kotrah District. I have known it often rain hard out of camp limits, not a drop falling in camp, and you could see the rain clouds skirting the hills. We had a copious fall of rain last year, and the hills are still well saturated, which accounts for the rivers and nullahs still running, which they have not done in the hot weather since 1859, from which date famine prices have been the rule.

Olimato.

2. From this date also a register of the thermometer will be kept. At present the weather is quite unusual for this season of the year, the thermometer being in the house at 6 o'clock A.M. 64° and in the middle of the day, say 2 P.M., 93° , more like November weather. Although such a difference of temperature does exist, still the inhabitants are very healthy. The cold this season was very severe, most of the jungle trees, small and large, with the exception of the Roonja, Kheir, and Sirsa, having had all their branches destroyed by the severity of the weather. Yearly, more or less trees suffer from the cold at Kotrah. Fruit trees have to be protected from the frost. The thermometer in November generally ranges from 45° morning to 85° midday, and down to 32° - 34° as the season gets colder.

JOORAH DISTRICT.

3. In the Joorah country the rain crop (that is, Indian corn,) was very good; also, from the abundant rain, the cold weather crop (wheat or grain) has been plentiful.

4. Since the last Annual Report the Joorah Chief has portioned off his brothers and cousins.

A *résumé* of the case is as follows:—

5. After the death of Gooman Singh, the father of the present Joorah Rao Zorawur Singh, the bringing up of his two younger brothers, Bheem Singh and Devee Singh, as well as that of his half-brothers, Ruttun Singh and Dowlut Singh, devolved upon him, and on the death of his uncle, Jodh Singh, his cousins, Buktavur Singh, Man Singh, and Kesree Singh, were also thrown on his hands; thus it remained for some years, until they all came to man's estate, and thus, out of the control, more or less, of the Chief. He was advised by me to apportion villages for their maintenance, and the following arrangement was effected by Captain Battye, Acting 2nd Assistant Political Agent, in May last year:—

6. To Thakoor Bheem Singh, his second brother, two villages, Tilloe and Paowtee, for which he pays annually Rupees 10: besides this, I am led to understand that he has some other perquisites from his brother which enables him to eke out a subsistence. I have not had time

to investigate this fully, but shall do so on my return to Kotrah. Without some assistance from his brother, Tilloee and Paowtee would not be sufficient for his maintenance.

7. Thakoor Devee Singh, 3rd brother, the villages of Soobao, Ajnee, and Beekuneea. He pays annually Rupees 10. The portion which has been assigned to him is sufficient for his maintenance.

8. To his half-brothers, Thakoor Ruttun Singh and Dowlut Singh, the villages of Chowhan-ka-sera, Kodurmal, and Goreea, annual payment Rupees 15. This is inadequate for their support, for they receive no assistance from their half-brother, the Joorah Chief, in the way of perquisites. His income before the settlement was over a thousand rupees annually: it is now about Rupees 100, and about the same in produce, total Rupees 200.

9. Besides this, it is very doubtful if he is not senior in age to Bheem Singh, the Chief's full 2nd brother; if so, he should receive a larger income than Bheem Singh, for, if heirs should fail to the Chief, the Chieftainship would be his by right. This I will also investigate on my return to Kotrah.

10. To his cousins, Thakoors Buktavur Singh, Man Singh, and Kesree Singh, the villages of Kam, Garro, and Poordo, annual payment Rupees 8. This also is insufficient for their support, as they receive no perquisites from their cousin, the Chief, though they are better off than the Chief's half-brothers, Ruttun Singh and Dowlut Singh. Their father was a man much feared by the Bheels, and he made them disgorge his share of the plunder they obtained from Guzerat. They became possessed of his property on his death, which helps them to make both ends meet.

The Thakorats of the Joorah Putta are thus increased from seven in last year's Report to 11 in this one.

11. At my request a schedule of the income of the Chief's estate has been handed in to me; I have it by me *in extenso*, but I do not consider it correct, and I should like to verify it before sending it in for the information of Government. The income put forth is Rupees 3,896.

OGHNAH DISTRICT.

12. The Chieftainship of Oghnah being nearer Oodeypore is more immediately connected with the Meywar Government, and consequently more under its control, than either Joorah or Panurwah. It was formerly simply a Thakorat of Panurwah. Many generations back it was given in fee-simple, and, gradually becoming more and more under the influence of the Durbar, became independent of Panurwah. This Chief's son is now the Rana or Chief of Panurwah, although not the rightful heir to the same, but he paid, or as you may call it bribed, the Durbar to allow his claim; but this will be more fully entered into when treating of the Panurwah estate. The Oghnah lands are much better cultivated than those of Joorah and Panurwah; the inhabitants are of a much better description or class of individuals; consequently, rents and other dues are more easily collected.

13. The rain crop (Indian corn) was very good. The cold weather one (grain and wheat, &c.) has also been excellent. Rain was so abundant that it could not be otherwise. A good deal of sugar-cane is also sown, and yields a good return: a little ginger is also sown.

Revenue.—I have obtained a list of villages with their yearly yields, but I do not consider it correct; it gives the Chief an income of Oodeypore Rupees 2,034.

PANURWAH.

14. The crops in this part of the Kotrah District have been good. In a certain extent of country called Bhandur the Indian corn was from the incessant rain so soaked that it rotted, and very little came to maturity. The greater portion of land in this part is alluvial soil, consequently low lying, which accounts for the excess of moisture.

15. The cold weather crops (grain, wheat, &c.) have come to full maturity on account of the copious fall of rain which I mentioned in the beginning of this Report.

16. Since the Annual Report of last year a settlement has been made as to the amount of tribute to be paid to the Oodeypore Government. It has been fixed at Rupees 500 yearly and arrears to be paid by instalments of Rupees 300 annually: 22 years of arrears, Rupees 11,000, are due, also investment money, Rupees 6,000, on his succeeding to the Chieftainship, total Rupees 17,000.

17. The present Rana and the rightful heir have been long at feud. The Rana has not fulfilled his promises to the latter; consequently, they are still estranged, and Buddun Singh, the Adewas Thakoor, has as yet never paid any revenue to the Rana, simply on the plea that when he gave up his claim to the Panurwah guddee, he was to receive a certain settlement which has not been carried out. As in the other two estates, a revenue return has been sent in showing an income of Rupees 3,715, but I do not consider it correct.

CAMP OODEYPORE, }
The 2nd May 1870. }

(Sd.) F. L. MACKESON, Major
2nd Asstt. Poltl. Agent, Meywar.

Appendix E.

No. 15-18, dated 21st February 1862.

From—MAJOR L. R. TAYLOR, Officiating Political Agent, Meywar.

To—MAJOR-GENERAL G. ST. P. LAWRENCE, C.B., Agent, Governor-General, Rajpootana.

FINDING that, from the circumstances attending the recent installation of the Maharana Simbhoo Singh, the Durbar officials and Thakoors were in a frame of mind favourable to a solution of their long existing disputes, I pointed out the great benefit to the State from an early attention to this subject. I have now very great pleasure in forwarding the settlement of the differences between the late Rana and the Chief of Deogurh, and as, strange to say, all parties appear satisfied with the arrangement, I hope the measure will meet with your approval.

| Deogurh claim. | Durbār reply. | Opinion of Regency. |
|---|--|---|
| 1. That I pay tribute and perform service according to the original scale laid down, <i>viz.</i> , service of 12 Sowars and 84 Fod for three months in each year, and tribute Rupees 7,900. | Amount of tribute is correct, but service must be the same as that which obtains throughout the country. | The stated service and amount of tribute to be continued pending the final settlement of the question. |
| 2. My ancestors never paid succession fees. At my father's death I was a minor, and the late Rana coaxed my foster-brother to give a promissory note for Rupees 50,000 (of which Rupees 25,000 has been paid). I now claim a refund of that sum and exemption for the future. | His father, Nahar Singh, was not the rightful heir, but to secure the Chieftainship he paid the sum of one and a half lakhs of rupees to the Durbār. That should not be a precedent. Succession fees are not taken from this family, and the Rupees 25,000 should be repaid. | Rupees 25,000 to be refunded and the family exempted for the future. |
| 3. The late Rana persuaded me to stand security for the Ex-Minister, Ram Singh, and took from me Rupees 18,000. After this His Highness confiscated Ram Singh's villages and expelled him the country, thus depriving me of the means of recovering any money. | As all Ram Singh's property was attached, this money should be returned. | Money to be returned accordingly. |
| 4. The late Rana confiscated several of my villages. I claim the full revenue for the term of attachment, <i>viz.</i> , Rupees 33,779-10-3. | Rupees 17,453-11-3 have been paid into the Treasury; this sum I am willing to repay; the remainder is shown to have been spent by the Minister of the period. | The attachment was made with the concurrence of the Political Agent, and therefore compensation for expenses incurred cannot be accorded, but the amount received to be refunded. |
| 5. Required a refund of Bhugwanpoora tribute, <i>viz.</i> , Rupees 450. | As the Rao's relatives are included in his settlement, the claim is just. | Amount to be paid. |
| 6. A refund of tribute for villages of Tunka, Khakur Mala, Rupees 378. | Agreed to. | To be paid. |
| 7. The Oodypore Chowdry carried off 42 camels (riding and baggage) on account of certain fees claimed; required restitution with any young they may have had. | The claim is unjust, and animals should be restored. Future settlers must, however, pay. | Animals with their young to be given up. |
| 8. A remission of interest, according to General Lawrence's instructions, in consideration of my having tendered tribute when due. | As the instalments have been paid to the Banker on the regulated dates, the claim for interest is not pressed. | The Rao paid his tribute regularly, but the Rana refused to take it: no interest should therefore be charged. |
| 9. It is usual to bestow a village upon each occasion of succession. | Where no succession fees are paid, villages are not bestowed. | The village should not be given. |
| 10. Whatever money may be due by me, I am ready to pay forthwith. | Balance due to the State, by account, Rupees 38,208-9-6 | Money paid, receipt taken, and satisfaction paper given. |
| (Sd.) RANJEET SINGH, Chief of Deogurh. | (Sd.) KESREE SINGH, Minister of Meywar. | (Sd.) BUKHAR SINGH (Bella). |
| | | " LAL SINGH (Googonda). |
| | | " NATHOO SINGH (Bhynsroregurh). |
| | | " HUMBER SINGH (Bheendur). |
| | | " MEHTA SHERE SINGH. |
| | | " SHAM NATH PUROHIT. |

Appendix F.

No. 325, dated 4th April 1862.

From—COL. H. M. DURAND, C.B., Secy. to Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.
To—MAJOR-GENL. G. ST. P. LAWRENCE, Govr.-Genl.'s Agent, Rajpootana.

IN reply to your letter No. 19, dated 4th ultimo, and its enclosures, regarding the adjustment of the claim of the Oodeypore Government against the Thakoor of Deogurh, I am directed to inform you that the Governor-General in Council approves of Major Taylor's proceedings in this case.

No. 378, dated 14th April 1862.

Endorsed by Agent, Governor-General, Rajpootana.

FORWARDED to the Political Agent, Meywar, for information.

Appendix G.

No. 111P., dated 2nd May 1870.

From—LIEUT.-COL. A. M. MACKENZIE, Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Meywar.

To—LIEUT.-COL. J. P. NIXON, Political Agent, Meywar.

I HAVE the honor to submit a Report on the Doongurpore State for the year 1869-70.

2. The efforts of His Highness Maharawal Oodey Singh and his Minister to improve the condition of the State and administer it with credit to themselves and advantage to the people have met with a fair measure of success, and notwithstanding the dearness and comparative scarcity of food, crime has not increased, and the Bheels have committed no excesses. This may justly be attributed to the humane and judicious measures adopted by the Chief in affording the poor the means of maintaining themselves by honest labour. Extensive repairs to the palace and city walls were carried out, three gateways which had fallen into ruin were restored, a "Baoli" (a large well into which people descend by steps to get water) was made in the city, and numerous tanks were dug throughout the district, involving an expenditure of forty-five thousand rupees. Twelve thousand rupees was also expended in feeding the infirm and others who were unable to work.

Revenue.

3. The receipts for the Sumbut year 1925 are stated to have been Rupees 1,34,518-3, but this sum does not include the amount to be realized on account of "Nuzzerana," interest, fines, fees, &c. The expenditure was unusually heavy, amounting to Rupees 2,01,458-15-9, but no embarrassment has arisen.

Durbar Troops.

4. In my Report of last year I informed you that 53 Wilaitees and Mukranees had been discharged, and that it was the intention of the

Chief to gradually reduce these mercenaries and supply their places with natives of the country. I have now the pleasure to report that His Highness is steadily carrying out this measure, a further reduction of 124 Wilaities and Mukranees having taken place during the year.

Harvests.

5. The spring crops for the year 1869 were very poor, yielding only about one-fourth of the usual produce. The rain crops, however, were good, and the "rubbee" crops of this year were abundant.

Administration of Justice.

6. The working of the Civil and Criminal Courts at the capital for the adjudication of cases occurring throughout the territory is steadily progressing, and it affords me much satisfaction to be able to report that Thakoors Abhey Singh and Rugnath Singh of Gainjee, whose opposition to the introduction of this desirable measure I had occasion to notice in my Report for 1867-68, have spontaneously conceded the point, *viz.*, the surrender of criminals for trial by the Durbar, and I have every hope that their good example will speedily be followed by all the Thakoors throughout the State; thus the evil arising from the irresponsible powers which each Jaghiredar assumed in his own estate will cease, and an improved system of government and administration of justice must necessarily ensue.

General Health.

7. Much sickness prevailed in the city of Doongurpore and throughout the district during the hot season of 1869. About 2,000 are said to have died of *cholera*, and a large number from a fatal disease called "Guzeratee" in this part of the country.

Trade.

8. I have nothing new to report on this head. The annual fair held at Bunneshur in February was again well attended both by sellers and buyers, and goods to the value of Rupees 1,35,025 were sold. The Maharawul and most of his Sirdars attended the fair with their quotas, and a company of the Meywar Bheel Corps was detached for the preservation of order, by which arrangements no disturbance of any kind or loss of property occurred throughout the fortnight during which the fair lasted.

Appendix H.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Disbursements of the Pertabgurh State for the Sunbūt year 1925.

| RECEIPTS. | Amount in Salim Shahce Rupees. | TOTAL. | DISBURSEMENTS. | Amount in Salim Shahce Rupees. | TOTAL. |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> | | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> |
| Revenues from the "Khalsa" or Crown villages | 1,62,466 12 0 | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> | Tribute paid to the British Government | 72,700 0 0 | 72,700 0 0 |
| Tributes from the Nobles | 33,849 12 0 | | "Raj Talkah" or State expenditure, viz., granary at Pertabgurh and Deogurh | 71,790 2 9 | |
| Income of the Town of Pertabgurh... | 44,635 2 6 | | "Schundee" (Army), Public Offices, Mootsaddce, Chob- dars, Hurkars, Chuprassees, sowars, &c. ... | 91,781 1 9 | |
| Do. of the Town of Deogurh or Deolia | 1,449 11 0 | | Grass | 13,623 8 6 | |
| Miscellaneous income | 2,022 0 0 | | Public Works | 3,033 2 3 | |
| "Suwai Juma," Fines, &c. | 74,568 3 6 | | Contract for horse shoes and nails | 190 0 0 | |
| Amount recovered on account of outstanding balances | 43,167 11 0 | 3,62,123 4 0 | Purchase of cloths, elephants, horses, and presents | 71,394 15 0 | |
| Amount due to the Treasurer, Gunesidass Kishnajee, during the year | 1,00,110 8 3 | | Dispensary | 1,160 6 3 | 2,52,912 4 0 |
| Due on account of sundry debts | 15,833 4 6 | 1,15,071 12 9 | Interest and discount | ... | 32,483 13 9 |
| | | | Remission to Zemindars, &c. | ... | 1,199 0 0 |
| | | | Paid on account of former debts | ... | 71,054 13 0 |
| | | | Outstanding balances | ... | 46,919 13 6 |
| Total, Rs. | | 4,78,100 0 9 | Total, Rs. | | 1,52,437 12 3 |
| | | | | | 1,78,100 0 9 |

(Sd.) J. P. NIXON, *Lieut.-Col.*,
Political Agent, Meywar.

Appendix I.

No. 49, dated 27th April 1870.

From—FRAMJEE BEEKAJEE, Esq., Assistant Political Agent, Meywar, on Special Duty at Banswarra.

To—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. P. NIXON, Political Agent, Meywar.

IN obedience to your No. 108, of the 5th instant, I have the honor to submit my Report on the administration of the State of Banswarra, but beg to state the able Reports of Lieutenant-Colonels Mackenzie and Hutchinson, Nos. 43P. and 33A.-10P., dated respectively the 25th February and 8th March 1869, forwarded to Government by Colonel Keatinge, C.S.I. and V.C., Governor-General's Agent for Rajpootana, with his letter No. 84P., dated 14th May last, on the Banswarra and Khoosulgurh complications, have left but little for me to write at present with my short experience in these parts.

2. The population of Banswarra is estimated at about 144,000. The town is surrounded on all sides by rugged hills, which afford refuge to the hordes of plundering Bheels that infest the roads between this place and the environing districts. It is defended by a stone wall broken in some places. At the foot of the fortress runs a small river.

| | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Men | ... | ... | ... | 1,639 |
| Women | ... | ... | ... | 2,176 |
| Male children | ... | ... | ... | 1,335 |
| Female do. | ... | ... | ... | 675 |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | <u>5,825</u> |

3. It contains 1,648 houses, and, according to the census made in 1868, the inhabitants number as per margin.

4. The affairs of the State are nominally placed in the hands of Kotharee Chimmunjee, a man of very poor abilities, but in reality are conducted by the Maharawul himself, who is an intelligent and able Prince. But at present his spirits are depressed owing to the shock he sustained lately in the Kalingra case. He complains of the devices of the interested parties in the State who, according to him, complicated his name in the unfortunate affairs and attached the stigma of falsehood to his name.

5. In private conversation His Highness said that Kotharee Kesree Singh, who was considered by Government not to have been implicated in the matter, was the originator of the base fabrication for which he (the Maharawul) suffered so heavily, and that he (Kesree Singh) was the person who stimulated indirectly and unknown to His Highness the Durbar officials to persist in their misconduct, and made the British authorities believe that he had sacrificed his post of Minister to keep himself free from the intrigue.

6. The Maharawul further said that the written confession was given on the spur of mercy to save his officials, and at the instigation of the Ex-Minister, Kesree Singh, who threatened him that, unless he do so, his State will be confiscated. The Chief's speech was so frank and candid that it seemed to attract belief, but I cannot give any opinion on a subject so exhaustively reported upon by Colonel Mackenzie, an able officer of mature experience.

Administration of Justice.

7. I regret to report that the distribution of criminal and civil justice here is slow and unsatisfactory on account of the want of proper tribunals and the interestedness of the Durbar officials.

8. The Criminal Court is presided over by a Nagur Brahmin of this place, named Shunkur Lal, and the Civil by a Bunya, named Gordhun Lal, also a native of Banswarra. Some of the Civil suits are settled by Punchayet of respectable mahajuns of the town.

9. I have examined some of the files of these Courts, and found nothing orderly or systematic. The Maharawul has, however, at my recommendation, commenced to reform them and bring them on a better footing. I beg to append a Statement of cases decided during the year, marked A.

10. The Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes for Katteeawar would be, with suitable modifications, the most effective in introducing a desirable change for the better administration of criminal justice and in the investigation and trial of criminal cases. I have translated them in Guzeratee, a language too much mixed up with the vernacular of this part, and I will submit their Hindee renderings after I have finished them for your approval.

Police.

11. There is no system of Police whatever; yet it is worthy of note that at the capital itself the security of property against thefts is perfect and admirable; people may sleep with their doors unshut, and still in the morning have no cause to repent. But an efficient Police is much wanted to keep order in the lawless districts throughout, where life and property are insecure.

12. The "ghat" (pass) of Tulwara especially is the most dangerous spot, infested by daring and atrocious Bheel robbers from the district of Sherghur, belonging to the Thakoor of Ghuree. It is partly a jaghire of the Thakoor of that ilk and partly assigned to one of the Ranees, and as three murders have of late occurred at that place, and the Thakoor, who is responsible for the safety of travellers passing through the ghat, is unable to guard it effectively, the Durbar has at my suggestion posted a Police Station of 1 Jemadar and 15 Sepoys to patrol the road, and I hope this will ensure the safety of travellers.

Finance.

13. The financial condition of the State is unsatisfactory. I

* From 21st June 1868 to 9th July 1869. beg to submit a Statement (marked B.) of Receipts and Disbursements for the Sumbut year * 1825, showing an expenditure of Rupees 17,525-8-6 in excess of the receipts. I have spoken to the Chief with the view of reducing the expenditure. His Highness gave me several reasons of his inability to do so, and said that he but barely maintained the state of his dignity, and observed that he was at present suffering an annual loss of Rupees 35,000, for his revenue had diminished by about Rupees 20,000 on account of the reduction of the rate of customs duty on grain in accordance with the agreement entered into in December 1868 at the Ajmere Grain Conference, and the expenditure had increased owing to the enhanced tribute of Rupees 15,000.

14. I have pointed out to him several items of expenditure which seemed to me unnecessarily large, and advised their reduction.

I have also suggested the preparation of a Budget Estimate for the ensuing Sumbut year 1927, in order to equalize the income and expenditure until some better scheme is formed to improve the finances of the State, and His Highness has ordered them to be carried out.

| | |
|---|------------|
| 15. The account furnished does not include the income and expenditure of 45 villages assigned for the Prince's personal ("Khasghee") expense and to the Zenana, yielding Rupees 40,384 annually, as marginally noted. | |
| 24 Khasghee villages, yielding | Rs. 19,921 |
| 21 Villages assigned to the Ranees, &c. | 20,463 |
| Total | Rs. 40,384 |

The expenditure of the Khasghee villages is said to be equal to the receipts.

16. It has been an old custom to give villages on contract to bankers and officials who appoint their own men as Thannadars, and leave the Durbar in despair of getting any reports from them. This is giving facility to persons so inclined to exercise the greatest tyranny and arbitrary power. The poor subject has no channel to express his grievances before his lawful Ruler.

17. The Maharawul has for the future, at my request, determined to abolish this ruinous practice and adopt the system of lease.

18. The systems of contract and of levying extra cess—the latter an usage of long standing, but very distasteful to the people—are, indeed, self-interested and shortsighted policies; but on my remonstrating that it caused constant complaints and heart-burning, the Maharawul answered as before, that he was compelled to have recourse to it to defray the expenses of the State. However, from the measures which are being taken to improve the condition of the affairs of the State, it is hoped that the malpractice will eventually cease.

19. The Maharawul intends to have his territories surveyed and to employ experienced Revenue officers for the collection of the due assessment.

| | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|
| | | Salim Shahoe Rs. |
| 488 Crown (Khalsa) villages, including | | |
| 10 Kusbas or towns, yielding | ... | 95,639 |
| 36 Eenamee villages | ... | 10,935 |
| 22 Villages, charitable grants | ... | 4,475 |
| 8 " service tenure to Charuns | ... | 2,700 |
| and others | ... | 4,787 |
| 6 Villages to Mootsuddes | ... | 19,921 |
| 24 " to Khasgee | ... | 20,463 |
| 21 " assigned to the Zenana | ... | |
| 40 " belonging to the Bheel | ... | 8,470 |
| Chiefs | ... | |
| 542 Villages belonging to the Rajpoot | ... | 2,80,000 |
| feudatories | ... | |
| 1,187 | Total Salim Shahoe | 4,47,390 |

20. The Banswarra State comprises 1,187 villages, yielding an annual sum of Rupees 4,47,390, as enumerated in the margin.

21. I beg to append a Statement (marked C.) showing the customs collections for the year under report, which amounts to Rupees 37,902-7-3.

Agriculture.

22. The agricultural prospects of this place are at present in a poor state, though the land is in most part fertile and productive: as the majority of the cultivators are Bheels, it is hoped that the introduction of settlement system will gradually better their condition.

Indian corn, kodra, wheat, and rice are the chief produce of the land. Wheat and gram are exported to the British Cantonment of Neemuch.

23. I beg to submit a memorandum (marked D.) showing the estimated amount of grain of all kinds produced in the Banswarra territory.

24. The spring and rain crops for the year 1869 were below the average, and yielded three-fourth of the usual produce, but the spring crops just harvested are tolerably good. The prices of grain sold in Banswarra at the wheat harvests of 1868, 1869, and 1870 are noted on the margin.

| For Government Rupee and Seers of 80 tolas. | | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|-------|--------|---------|
| | Wheat. | | Gram. | | Mukkee. |
| In 1868 ... | 17 | Seers. | 21 | Seers. | 20 |
| „ 1869 ... | 14 | „ | 17 | „ | 21 |
| „ 1870 ... | 17½ | „ | 20 | „ | 34 |

Troops.

25. The troops maintained by this State are as per margin. The

| SEBUNDEL. | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Wilaitees. | | | | |
| Jemadars ... | ... | ... | 4 | |
| Sepoys ... | ... | ... | 96 | |
| | | | — | 100 |
| Mukranees. | | | | |
| Jemadars ... | ... | ... | 2 | |
| Sepoys ... | ... | ... | 20 | |
| | | | — | 22 |
| Native of Banswarra, &c. | | | | |
| Jemadars ... | ... | ... | 10 | |
| Sepoys ... | ... | ... | 214 | |
| | | | — | 221 |
| Sowars, native of the country | | | 40 | |
| | | | — | 40 |
| Tehseel and Thannah Sepoys. | | | | |
| Jemadar ... | ... | ... | 1 | |
| Wilaitee Sepoys ... | ... | ... | 32 | |
| Mukranee Sepoys ... | ... | ... | 9 | |
| Natives of the country | | ... | 52 | |
| | | | — | 91 |
| Total ... | | | 480 | |

Wilaitee and Mukranee mercenaries have been too obnoxious in this part. Colonel Keatinge, Governor-General's Agent, on his visit to this place in January last, expressed his disapprobation to the Durbar for having maintained in their service these foreigners contrary to the Treaty engagements, and directed their gradual dismissal. The Maharawal has since then been endeavouring to reduce their number, and has already got rid of about 35 of them.

Feudatories.

26. I beg to annex a classified list (marked E.) of the Thakoore Jaghiredars of Banswarra, with the number of villages belonging to each and their approximate gross annual income, and the amount of tribute paid to the Durbar.

27. The old feuds between them and the Durbar still exist; but my presence here will, I hope, tend to bring about a better understanding between the parties.

28. The general notion among the Thakoors is, that the Durbar is only entitled to the tribute money, and has nothing to do in the interior affairs of their estates. Though they profess to say that they are ready and willing to obey the Durbar's order in all matters, they demur to surrender criminals for trial to the Durbar, as thereby they would be deprived of a source of income rendered, in my opinion, too profitable by the avaricious and narrow spirit they evince in enlarging heinous offenders on paltry fines, and thus encouraging the perpetration of the direst crimes.

29. After repeated calls the Rao of Khoosulgurh has at last sent a Vakeel on the 9th instant to attend at this Office. He has not as yet, as you are aware, entirely changed the tone of independence. His

answers to my communications in cases urged against his subjects by those of the neighbouring States and received through the Political authorities are unsatisfactory.

30. The dispute about the succession fee ("Tulwar Bundbaee") between the Durbar and the Rao has not yet been settled. It is under investigation, and will form a separate Report.

The Bheels of Banswarra.

31. The Bheels, though by habit given to robbery, still can be reclaimed, so as to appreciate the advantages arising from honest industry and a quiet life. A proper guarantee from undue extortion, a due encouragement to agricultural labour, a fair distribution of justice, and a sufficient force to intimidate their turbulent spirits, all which the Maharawul has promised to accomplish, will induce this turbulent and mild race to peaceful pursuits.

32. In the end of February last it was reported that a woman accused of witchcraft was forcibly seized and carried away from her village by the Bheels of Chundrore, a village about 10 miles from the capital, to be swung for having caused the illness of a lad. I advised the Minister to send a guard of sepoy immediately to bring the parties here; some slight resistance was made by the superstitious Bheels, but on a reinforcement being sent, the woman and the Bheels were brought to Banswarra. The woman confessed the deed with which she was charged. There is a foolish notion prevailing about witches among all classes here that they ought to be swung into the power of curing or counteracting their former evil influence. But, disinclined to foster such a criminal belief, or to see the woman chastised in a way that would cause immediate death, I strongly remonstrated against it. The woman was kept here in safety by my order until the recovery of the lad said to have been malinfluenced by her, lest she might be, on any mischance to him, subjected to the horrible correction; and the Bhopa (witchfinder) and others concerned were tried and punished by the Durbar.

Forests.

33. There are good and dense forests in Banswarra. It is a pity that they were allowed to be neglected. But as advised by Colonel Keatinge, Governor-General's Agent, and Mr. Brandis, Inspector-General of Forests, on their visit to this place, measures are being taken to preserve some of them. This will be a source of pecuniary advantage a few years hence.

34. In my next cold weather tour I will mark out permanently such of the forests as would, if preserved, turn to the benefit of the State.

Sanitary reform.

35. An official has been lately appointed to look to the sanitary state of the town.

Dispensary.

36. The Maharawul has already done something towards this useful institution by appointing a Hakeem and supplying him with Native medicines, and has lately applied* for the services of a Native Doctor for a permanent dispensary at his capital.

* From Assistant Political Agent, Meywar, to Political Agent, Meywar, No. 47, dated 22nd April 1870.

Education.

37. This branch, I grieve to say, has been wholly neglected by the State. There is a nominal Vernacular School recently established by the Durbar, which is attended by about 118 boys, and taught by a Guzeratee Brahmin on a scanty pay of 8 Salim Shahee Rupees per mensem. However, I have advised the Chief to look to the education of his subjects as the sole source from which he may expect the improvement of the great mass of people placed under his care.

38. The people here generally are not willing, nor are they capable, to receive English education; and as this place is too isolated, I think we can wait for a better season for its introduction.

39. The Maharawul is very desirous of imparting education to his children. One of his illegitimate sons, about 16 years old, is at present studying the Sanscrit and Persian, and the other, 10 years old, the Hindue of the country.

Post Office.

40. Much inconvenience is experienced from want of a Post Office at Banswarra, and as the Durbar demurs to pay the extra expense referred to in letter No. 17269, of 13th February last, from the Postmaster-General, North-Western Provinces, to the Governor-General's Agent for Rajpootana, I would respectfully solicit that Government may be addressed with the view to sanction an Office, the cost of which may be defrayed from the increased amount of tribute levied from the Banswarra State.

Legitimate.

Koowur Sumbho Singh, 2 years old.

Sadool Singh, 4½ months old.

Illegitimate.

Uggur Singh, 16 years old.

Sungram Singh, 10 years old.

41. The eldest son of the Maharawul, by name Jey Singh, mentioned in your Report No. 17-1P., dated 21st February 1867, paragraph 36, died in November last. The Maharawul has at present four sons; two of them are legitimate and two illegitimate, as named on the margin.

A.

Statement of Civil and Criminal Cases instituted, decided, and pending in the Dewanee and Fouzdaree Courts of Banswarra for Sumbut year 1925.

| No. OF CASES INSTITUTED, INCLUDING BALANCE OF PREVIOUS YEAR. | | Total. | No. OF CASES DECIDED. | | Total. | REMAINING AT THE END OF YEAR SUMBUT 1925. | | Total. |
|--|--------|--------|-----------------------|--------|--------|---|--------|--------|
| Criminal. | Civil. | | Criminal. | Civil. | | Criminal. | Civil. | |
| 238 | 103 | 341 | 208 | 81 | 289 | 30 | 22 | 52 |

(Sd.)

FRANJEE BEEKAJEE,
Asstt. Political Agent.

B.

ACCOUNT of Receipts and Disbursements of the Banswarra State for Sumbut year 1925, i.e., from 21st June 1868 to 9th July 1869.

| RECEIPTS. | Amount in Salim Shahee Rupees. | Total in Salim Shahee Rupees. | DISBURSEMENTS. | Amount in Salim Shahee Rupees. | Total in Salim Shahee Rupees. |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| Land Revenue and Sewai Jumma ... | 95,638 13 3 | 178,832 14 6 | Tribute to the British Government | 33,000 0 0 | 36,400 0 0 |
| Tribute from the Thakoor Jaghiredars | 17,831 12 6 | | Exchange on remitting the tribute | 1,400 0 0 | |
| Customs Collections ... | 37,992 7 3 | 10,310 13 3 | Pay of Troops (Sebundee) | 35,240 3 6 | 99,138 11 6 |
| Abkaree ... | 2,507 4 0 | | Kothar Khureh (Granary) | 36,190 14 9 | |
| Nuzurana ... | 2,743 11 0 | 1,89,143 11 9 | Charity | 10,749 9 0 | 71,137 8 9 |
| Fines of the Civil Court | 7,017 12 6 | | Expense of marriages of the Maharawal and his son | 12,404 7 3 | |
| Fines, &c., levied by the Criminal Court | 3,12 13 6 | 17,532 8 6 | "Chhoot" (Remissions) to the Zemindars and Jaghiredars | 4,553 9 0 | 2,06,676 4 3 |
| Miscellaneous income | 3,784 6 9 | | Miscellaneous expenses, viz— | 3,170 1 9 | |
| | 9,161 14 3 | | Kings Furnaces (cash to the Maharawal) | 5,091 4 0 | |
| Sums recovered on account of balance of previous years.. | | | Building expenses | 1,124 15 6 | |
| | | | Stationery | 3,145 10 6 | |
| Total receipt, Salim Shahee Rupees ... | | | Gifts and grants, "Siropao," &c. ... | 2,615 4 3 | |
| | | | Hukooms and medicines | 4,013 15 3 | |
| Borrowed from Sahoobars to cover the expense of the year ... | | | Pay of Thannah officials and sepoy | 11,724 10 0 | |
| | | | Purchase of horses, elephants, and jewellery | 2,866 9 0 | |
| | | | Customs Establishment | 4,181 8 6 | |
| | | | Cash payment to Ranee Baghchejee | 1,487 0 0 | |
| | | | Civil and Criminal Courts | 10,718 5 3 | |
| | | | Pay of other State Officers and Establishments | 3,378 13 9 | |
| | | | Anniversary expenses (Salscheeh) | 3,751 11 6 | |
| | | | Presents and entertainments to visitors | 13,847 11 6 | |
| | | | Other sundry expenses | | |
| Total, Salim Shahee Rupees ... | | 2,06,676 4 3 | Total, Salim Shahee Rupees ... | | |

ABSTRACT OF BALANCES.

| | Rs. a. p. |
|---|---------------|
| Balance of previous years... | 75,614 4 0 |
| Amount of receipts for the year 1925 | 1,78,832 14 6 |
| Realized during the year ... | 2,51,477 2 6 |
| "Chhoot" remissions | 1,84,590 3 3 |
| Balance remaining at the close of Sumbut 1925 | 1,89,143 11 9 |
| | 4,553 8 6 |
| | 65,333 6 9 |

(Sd.)

FRANJEE BEEKAJEE,

Asstt. Political Agent.

C.

STATEMENT of customs duty collected on goods in the Banswarra State during the Sumbut year 1925.

| No. | Names of Articles. | Quantity of goods in Bullockload (Pothee), weighing 3 maunds each (Government weight). | Amount of duty. | | |
|-----|--|--|-----------------|----|----|
| | | | Rs. | a. | p. |
| 1 | Grain— | | | | |
| | From Bagur (Banswarra territory) to Malwa | 20,000 | 15,000 | 0 | 0 |
| | „ Bagur to Guzerat | 15,100 | 11,325 | 0 | 0 |
| | „ Doongurpore to Malwa | 24,175 | 2,916 | 13 | 0 |
| 2 | Ghee, from Bagur to Malwa | 629 | 750 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | “Kirkool,” spice, cocoanuts, &c.— | | | | |
| | From Bagur to Malwa | 876 | 382 | 8 | 0 |
| | „ Guzerat to Malwa | 3,500 | 437 | 8 | 0 |
| | „ Bagur to Guzerat | 187 ¹ / ₄ | 115 | 5 | 0 |
| 4 | Mawa, from Bagur to Malwa | 3,563 ³ / ₄ | 445 | 5 | 0 |
| 5 | Salt, from Guzerat to Malwa | 28,750 | 2,300 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | Cloth— | | | | |
| | From Malwa to Guzerat | 631 ¹ / ₄ | 1,105 | 0 | 0 |
| | „ Guzerat to Bagur | 62 ¹ / ₂ | 281 | 4 | 0 |
| 7 | Brass and copper utensils, from Malwa to Guzerat | 46 ¹ / ₄ | 327 | 4 | 0 |
| 8 | Cotton, from Malwa to Guzerat | 75 | 88 | 12 | 0 |
| 9 | Sugar, from Malwa to Guzerat | 162 ¹ / ₂ | 203 | 2 | 0 |
| 10 | Opium, from Malwa and Pertabgurh to Guzerat | 202 ¹ / ₂ | 1,312 | 8 | 0 |
| 11 | Al (Dye), from Malwa to Guzerat | 3,156 ¹ / ₄ | 395 | 10 | 0 |
| 12 | Oil, from Guzerat to Malwa | 750 | 234 | 6 | 0 |
| 13 | Timbers, &c., from Bagur to Malwa | 224 | 283 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Cartload. | | | |
| | TOTAL | 102,148 ¹ / ₂ | 37,903 | 5 | 0 |

D.

MEMORANDUM of the estimated amount of grain of all kinds produced in the Banswarra Territory.

| Names of Articles. | Weight in maund of 80lbs. |
|---|---------------------------|
| Mukkee | 600,000 |
| Rodera (a kind of grain) | 300,000 |
| Wheat | 180,000 |
| Rice | 180,000 |
| Gram | 75,000 |
| Oorud, moong, chowla, mussoor, buttena, &c. | 175,000 |
| TOTAL MDS. | 1,510,000 |

(Sd.)

FRAMJEE BEEKAJEE,

Asstt. Political Agent.

E.

CLASSIFIED list of Thakoor Jaghiredars of Banswarra, with the number of villages belonging to each and their approximate gross annual income, and the amount of tribute paid by each to the Durbar.

| No. | Names of Jaghiredars. | No. of villages. | Place of Residence. | Approximate annual income. | Amount of tribute paid to the Durbar. | | REMARKS. |
|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|--|
| | | | | | Rs. | a. p. | |
| 1 | Chohan Sirdar Singh | 7 | Motagaon | 8,000 | 571 | 0 0 | 1st Class Sirdar (Tazeemee). |
| 2 | Chohan Bulwunt Singh | 7 | Maitwalla | 8,000 | 875 | 8 0 | Ditto (ditto). |
| 3 | Chohan Bhugwunt Singh | 24 | Urthoona | 15,000 | 951 | 0 0 | Ditto (ditto). |
| 4 | Chohan Rutton Singh | 151 | Ghuree | 80,000 | 3,000 | 0 0 | Ditto (ditto). |
| 5 | Bhaee Madho Singh | 5 | Soorpoor | 4,000 | 361 | 6 0 | 1st Class Sirdar, cousin of the Rawul (Tazeemee). |
| 6 | Bhaee Futteh Singh | 40 | Khadoo | 30,000 | 400 | 0 0 | Ditto, connection of the Rawul (Tazeemee). |
| 7 | Chohan Khooshal Singh | 11 | Gunora | 10,000 | 626 | 0 0 | Ditto (Tazeemee). |
| 8 | Rathore Zorawur Singh | 169 | Kooshulgurh | 60,000 | 1,100 | 0 0 | Ditto (ditto). |
| 9 | Mairteed Bukhtayur Singh | 7 | Tulwara | 2,000 | 367 | 15 3 | Ditto (ditto). |
| 10 | Mairteed Oonkar Singh | 1 | Arewara | 1,000 | 176 | 6 0 | Ditto (ditto). |
| 11 | Suktawut Bulwunt Singh | 16 | Khoosulpoor | 4,000 | | | Ditto ditto. Pays no tribute, but presents Nuzurana on succession. |
| 12 | Chohan Doongur Singh | 1 | Nuvagaon | 1,000 | 463 | 4 0 | 1st Class Sirdar (Tazeemee). |
| 13 | Chohan Kesree Singh | 5 | More | 2,000 | 791 | 4 0 | Ditto (ditto). |
| 14 | Chohan Ghumeer Singh | 2 | Khera Rohineea | 1,000 | 70 | 0 0 | Ditto (ditto). |
| 15 | Bhaee Luchmun Singh | 5 | Amja | 6,000 | 825 | 0 0 | 2nd Class Sirdar. |
| 16 | Chohan Zorawur Singh | 3 | Bussee | 3,000 | 528 | 3 0 | Ditto. |
| 17 | Chohan Nuwul Singh | 8 | Chhaj | 3,000 | 640 | 6 9 | Ditto. |
| 18 | Chohan Gooman Singh | 19 | Bhookhia | 4,000 | 774 | 9 0 | Ditto. |
| Carried forward | | 481 | ... | 2,42,000 | 12,521 | 14 0 | |

CLASSIFIED list of Thakoor Jaghiredars of Banswarra, &c.—(Concluded.)

| No. | Names of Jaghiredars. | No. of villages. | Place of Residence. | Approximate annual income. | Amount of tribute paid to the Durbar. | | REMARKS. |
|-----|------------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| | | | | | Rupees. | Rs. a. p. | |
| | Brought forward | 481 | ... | 2,42,000 | 12,521 14 0 | | |
| 19 | Ada Hindoo Singh | 5 | Bheemsore | 3,500 | 932 9 9 | | 2nd Class Sirdar. |
| 20 | Choodamut Doolah Singh | 4 | Gulkeea | 3,500 | 131 12 9 | | Ditto. |
| 21 | Chohan Golab Singh | 1 | Oomara | 1,000 | 215 11 0 | | Ditto. |
| 22 | Chohan Pirthee Singh | 4 | Beechawara... | 3,500 | 425 0 0 | | Ditto. |
| 23 | Chohan Sooruj Mull | 3 | Bhowasa | 4,500 | 188 11 6 | | Ditto. |
| 24 | Chohan Runn Mull | 1 | Moeawasa | 1,000 | 152 3 3 | | Ditto. |
| 25 | Ada Deep Singh | 3 | Koomania | 2,000 | 345 13 0 | | Ditto. |
| 26 | Ada Bukht Singh | 1 | Deoda | 1,500 | 233 2 6 | | Ditto. |
| 27 | Chohan Humeer Singh | 2 | Delwara | 1,000 | 225 4 0 | | Ditto. |
| 28 | Suktavut Golab Singh | 5 | Nurnalee | 4,000 | 218 10 0 | | Ditto. |
| 29 | Koohamut Zorawur Singh | 8 | Koondla | 2,500 | 260 5 0 | | Ditto. |
| 30 | Suktavut Tukht Singh | 4 | Sumuleea | 2,000 | | | Pays no tribute, but presents Nuzurana on succession. |
| 31 | Rathore Dulput Singh | 1 | Toolia Bel | 500 | 250 0 0 | | Pays no tribute; a relative of the Rao of Kooshulgurh. |
| 32 | Mairteed Tukht Singh | 20 | Tamesra | 8,000 | | | |
| 32 | | 543 | | 2,80,500 | 16,185 0 9 | | |

N.B.—No accurate information can be obtained from the Durbar records regarding the strength of military quota each Thakoor is bound to furnish, but one and all are supposed to do so when required.

(Sd.)

FRANJEE BEEKAJEE,

Asstt. Political Agent.

Appendix J.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Disbursements of the Oodeypore State for the Sumbut year 1925.

| RECEIPTS. | Amount. | | TOTAL. | | EXPENDITURE. | Amount. | | TOTAL. | |
|---|---------|-------|-----------|-------|---|----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| | Rs. | a. p. | Rs. | a. p. | | Rs. | a. p. | Rs. | a. p. |
| Land Revenue ... | ... | ... | 16,52,898 | 13 6 | Kutchery or Public Offices ... | 48,551 | 7 0 | ... | ... |
| Customs ... | ... | ... | 3,18,049 | 7 3 | Devanree and Foudaree Establishments. | 4,898 | 11 3 | ... | ... |
| Chuttoond or tribute ... | ... | ... | 1,62,771 | 15 6 | Tehseels ... | 2,14,623 | 10 6 | ... | ... |
| Investiture fees ... | ... | ... | 7,609 | 9 0 | Kothar or Granary ... | 2,61,776 | 4 9 | ... | ... |
| Devanree and Foudaree Civil and Criminal Courts' fees ... | ... | ... | 15,302 | 14 9 | "Karkhana" ... | 82,497 | 8 9 | ... | ... |
| "Nuzurana" (offerings) ... | ... | ... | 13,159 | 5 9 | Cloth Establishment ... | 61,080 | 5 6 | ... | ... |
| "Butta Poddaree," Discount, &c. ... | ... | ... | 46,639 | 4 3 | Jewels, &c. ... | 54,338 | 1 6 | ... | ... |
| Fines ... | ... | ... | 50,326 | 9 3 | Purchase of horse and elephants and grass, &c. ... | 34,323 | 7 0 | ... | ... |
| Profit of Raj Shop ... | ... | ... | 19,276 | 13 9 | Camels and bullocks ... | 24,024 | 14 6 | ... | ... |
| City income ... | ... | ... | 42,393 | 10 9 | Public Works ... | 1,40,565 | 12 3 | ... | ... |
| Miscellaneous ... | ... | ... | 35,506 | 8 6 | Holiday expenditure ... | 8,464 | 6 9 | ... | ... |
| Extras from pergunnahs ... | ... | ... | 14,000 | 0 0 | Allowances ... | 65,710 | 15 3 | ... | ... |
| Deficiency ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Army ... | 6,22,121 | 6 0 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | Zenana expenses ... | 1,26,842 | 3 9 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | Religious grants and charity ... | 3,80,100 | 14 0 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | English tribute ... | 2,63,500 | 0 0 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | Compensation ... | 15,007 | 5 9 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | Allowances in lieu of land ... | 11,763 | 3 9 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | Gifts ... | 1,51,185 | 0 0 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | Expenditure for travellers and visitors.. | 17,374 | 13 6 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | Expenses of Raj officials employed in districts ... | 5,183 | 1 0 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | Opium Agency ... | 2,663 | 9 0 | ... | ... |
| | | | | | Miscellaneous ... | 19,381 | 5 6 | ... | ... |
| Total, Oodeypore Rupees ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Total, Oodeypore Rupees ... | ... | ... | 26,15,978 | 7 3 |
| | | | | | | | | 26,15,978 | 7 3 |

(Sd.) J. P. NIXON, Lieut.-Col.,
Political Agent, Meywar.

JEYPORE AGENCY REPORT.

No. 85-58G., dated 17th May 1870.

From—CAPTAIN E. R. C. BRADFORD, Officiating Political Agent, Jeypore.

To—COLONEL R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Governor-General's Agent for the States of Rajpootana.

It is almost needless for me to point out that, having been but recently deputed to officiate in the capacity of Political Agent of Jeypore, any Report on the Administration of that State which I could possibly offer must of necessity be meagre and unsatisfactory, since it must be confined chiefly to what I have been able to gather from former Reports and from a perusal of the official correspondence which has taken place during the year under review.

2. In the absence of anything that could guide me to the adoption of a more satisfactory plan, I have taken up the consideration of each subject in the order of its occurrence in my predecessor's Report for the year 1868-69, avoiding such matters as appear to require a more intimately personal acquaintance with their details than I have been able to gain during the short period of my incumbency.

3. The affairs of the State continue to be conducted mainly by the Council, in the constitution of which no change appears to have taken place during the year. However reluctantly, I feel myself compelled to arrive at the conclusion that the high promises which were confidently formed when this Council was inaugurated have not been realized as fully as it was hoped they might be. From all I can learn of its mode of conducting business, there does not appear to be that independence of action amongst its members the existence of which is so absolutely necessary in a Council charged with the responsible duty of advising the Chief of the State, and I fear that the tendency of its operations is less to induce in executive officers individual energy than to relieve them of the responsibility involved in their position. I should feel greater diffidence in making these depreciatory remarks were it not that many of the members of the Council themselves and others of influence in the State with whom I have conversed on the subject agree with me in the opinion here expressed.

4. Whilst thus in a measure appearing to detract from the vaunted utility of the Council, I do not wish it to be understood that I am not fully alive to the fact that the administration of affairs generally in Jeypore is far in advance of that existing in almost any State in India. Indeed, it could hardly be otherwise, whilst His Highness the Maharaja himself shows such personal interest in his State and anxiety for the welfare of his people. We must but hope that the Council, becoming alive to its own weakness, may be incited to additional efforts in support of the worthy and laudable desire towards advancement with which their Ruler is imbued.

5. Famine, which raged last year over the greater portion of Rajpootana, was severely felt in Jeypore, especially in the Shekawatee districts: not that famine is by any means an unfrequent occurrence in this part of the country, but never apparently has it visited this neighbourhood with such great severity as it did last year. In closing his Report, Major Beynon alluded to the establishment of Dhurrumsalahs

and alms-houses, it having already become evident that a very critical season was approaching, requiring the utmost exertions from all classes of the community to meet it. A most unusually scanty rainy season had resulted in an alarming scarcity of water. The rubber harvest had yielded but a quarter of its average crop even in the most favoured places, and altogether there was sufficient cause for the darkest and gloomiest forebodings.

6. The measures adopted to meet this emergency have already been fully communicated to Government, but, in consideration of the interest and importance attached to the circumstances connected with it, I feel myself sufficiently warranted to revert to them here. The rain-fall of the previous year had barely amounted to one-fifth of the general average, and when it was found that the rainy season was again passing away in drought, it is not surprising that the population was seized with the greatest apprehension and alarm as to the results. The month of July had barely closed before the roads, and public thoroughfares presented the most pitiable and heart-rending scenes of distress. Along the district roads, where, owing to the excessive dearth of grass during the season of 1868, nearly all the cattle had been lost, such scenes were continually occurring.

7. This state of things led to the convention in the month of August of a public meeting intended to determine on the adoption of the best possible means for arresting the approaching calamity. The Maharaja attended this meeting in person, and with the most exemplary liberality proclaimed his intention of doubling any amount that might be raised by private subscription. This munificence was cordially responded to, and resulted in the immediate subscription of a sum warranting a monthly outlay of Rupees 700. These funds were placed at the disposal of a Committee consisting of Meer Joowun and Sunder Lall, two of the chief officers of the State, associated with Captain Jacob, the Executive Engineer; and I am glad to be able to record my testimony in commendation of the manner in which the voluntary duties of this Committee were discharged.

8. The method of the distribution of relief, the means adopted for supplying the able-bodied poor with labour on tanks, roads, and other works inaugurated for the purpose, the careful adaptation of the species of labour thus imposed upon them to their physical condition, the gratuitous feeding of those too weak and sickly for any kind of work with a tenderness meriting all praise, was reported on by Major Beynon in November 1869, and the thanks of the Government were conveyed to His Highness the Maharaja and the Committee of Management in a letter from the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 148G., dated 21st January 1870.

9. During the months of September and October alone as many as 94,907 were provided with food in the Dhurrumsalah, and the total number recorded during the whole period of its existence is 131,652. In the beginning of March those willing and able to move were by degrees dismissed to their homes, each pauper being provided with a sufficient sum of money to take him to his own village: and on the 22nd of the same month the Committee was able to report that their labours had finally ceased. A Statement* is attached showing the number of persons relieved and the districts whence they came. It will be seen that more were received from

* Marked A.

Marwar than from any other district. The monsoon, which was late everywhere, was excessively partial, and the five zillas of Phagee, Malpoora, Chatsoo, Sewai Madhapore, and Mullarua to the south suffered more than others from the scanty rain-fall. The tanks had literally no water in them, and the wells were so low, that little land could be brought under cultivation. The consequence was that both harvests in these zillas are said to have been less than one-eighth of an average crop. Again in the Gungerpore, Toodabheru, and Hindown Zillas, the yield is put down at a quarter of the average. In these districts the cultivation is entirely dependent on artificial means of irrigation, and yet the water, though far short of the usual supply, exceeded that in other places.

10. To the north-east, in the pergunnahs of Jalsote, Buswa, Bairat, and Dowsa, the harvest was within a quarter of the average, and around Jeypore itself it was even better still.

11. The land in Shekawattee only yields one crop during the present season. There was an excellent yield of bajra; not so of moat, which gave great promise, but was utterly ruined by the unseasonableness of the weather just as it was ripening.

In Toorawattee the crops may be said to have been good, as also in the Ramgurh Pergunnah.

12. With the exception of the southern zillas, the grass was originally plentiful, but much of it was subsequently destroyed by locusts.

13. The Durbar was most liberal in its endeavours to alleviate, as far as possible, the suffering caused by the failure of the crops. I am told that as much as one lakh of rupees in arrears of rent was allowed to stand over, and the levying of as large a sum of succession duty postponed, and that the following works, entirely distinct from those to be hereafter referred to under the head of Public Works (though many of these latter, too, were begun with the same benevolent purpose of affording prompt relief), were sanctioned to supply a means of livelihood to the destitute:—

| | Rs. |
|---|--------|
| Repairs to the fort of Runtumbore and works in its vicinity | 71,252 |
| Do. to the fort at Mowah | 5,321 |
| Do. „ at Bowree | 11,120 |
| Do. „ at Madharajpoora | 1,500 |
| Do. „ at Nusseerada | 2,000 |
| Do. „ forts of Sagurh, Soodersungurh, Ambagurh, Guneshgurh, with therepairs to the Amber Palace ... | 91,521 |

14. A Statement* will be found attached to this Report showing

* Marked B. the number of people who were compelled by the prevailing scarcity to emigrate to other districts, together with that of persons who have not yet returned to their former homes. It draws a painful picture of more than one district. In the Malpoora Zilla, for instance, 1,150 houses still remain unoccupied by their original tenants.

15. It would have been reasonable to infer that so much distress and want would naturally have made a strong impression upon the sanitary condition of the population. The medical statistics with which

I have been furnished do not, however, support this inference. On the whole, the year cannot be regarded as having been a very unhealthy one, nor was it the reverse. There was an outbreak of small-pox, which carried off 986 persons, but this is not by any means a large number in proportion to the population, nor did the epidemic last very long. Dr. Burr reports that not a single death occurred in the small-pox hospital established during this epidemic,—a circumstance which would lead one to conclude that the disease was not of a very virulent type. Cholera appeared early in April, but nowhere did it commit the terrible havoc which it did in other parts of India, and this is the more remarkable since the territory of Jeypore did not become entirely free from the disease until quite the end of September.

16. When the first reports of the existence of cholera in Ajmere were received here, the Agency Surgeon, Dr. Burr, submitted certain recommendations for the better conservancy of the Jeypore city, which it appears the Durbar readily sanctioned, and to these he attributes the comparative immunity which the inhabitants of Jeypore enjoyed.

17. The simultaneous outbreak of cholera in the various districts of the Jeypore territory, separated in many instances by great distances, is worthy of notice, as appearing to afford an additional fact in opposition to the theory that this disease is only propagated by individual communication.

18. There is scarcely a district in this territory which seems to have wholly escaped, but the small proportion of deaths to the number treated would indicate a mild form of this terrible disease. The Pergunnah of Mowah, however, offers an exception, happily the only one out of 62 cases occurring within little more than one month: 21 deaths are recorded.

19. Dr. Burr's Report on these epidemics will doubtless receive much fuller revision from the Superintendent-General of Dispensaries and Vaccination in Rajpootana than I can possibly furnish, rendering needless any further reference to the subject here.

Revenue.

20. I had hoped that the Durbar would have furnished me with fuller information than I have been able to obtain as to the revenue of this State, but the only return I have received in reference thereto is meagre in the extreme. I am told that the revenue during the past year did not exceed Rupees 26,60,332, and that the expenditure amounted to as much as Rupees 58,00,788, the excess of expenditure over income being only met by a draft on the Treasury.

21. To the unusually unpropitious season is attributed this apparently anomalous condition of the Jeypore finances. How much credence is to be given to the statement I cannot say, and as the Durbar official year does not close until the 29th of August, I have not now the means of verifying it in any way.

Shekawattee.

22. Captain Powlett's appointment to the Political Superintendence of Shekawattee has resulted in a complete revolution of things in that outlying district. He informs me that although he has not had

occasion to take advantage of the rules issued by the Durbar for the guidance of its officers in their relations with his staff, there is nevertheless no doubt as to their utility.

23. The official records also indicate that crime has diminished during his presence in the district. No very serious dacoity or robbery has occurred within the year, and the Durbar informs me that the different thannahs have been completely reorganized with a view to their being more effectively instrumental in the suppression of crime.

24. Captain Powlett speaks in favourable terms of the official appointed by the Durbar to the superintendence of Gerai. Formerly dacoits and robbers committed their lawless depredations with impunity, and without the slightest fear of those entrusted with the maintenance of order. This state of things exists no longer, and a wholesome degree of intimidation has been instilled into evil-doers.

25. A large number of the noted Rajpoot dacoits with their followers have been arrested, and many others have fled the territory only to be tracked by the Thuggee and Dacoitee Department into other States. The Durbar seems really to have become alive to the necessity of cordial co-operation with Captain Powlett, and I have every hope that each year more and more will be effected towards the improvement of a district which has been until quite lately a disgrace to the Jeypore State.

26. The policy which the Maharaja himself has adopted towards the Shekawattee Thakoors will, in my opinion, go far to encourage them to aid in the work of restoring their respective districts to order, and hunting down lawless bands which have hitherto preyed upon this mis-governed province.

27. Since joining this appointment I observe that several of the influential Thakoors have visited the capital, and each of them has expressed himself as agreeably surprised at the kind interest shown in him personally by His Highness the Maharaja, and the evident anxiety on his part to retain them in undisturbed possession of their estates. This is the more gratifying when it is remembered that their visits have been made with the view of their being formally installed in their respective States on paying a succession nuzurana, which, until quite lately, has been resisted by most of them as an unauthorized innovation.

28. Undoubtedly the establishment of a proper degree of respect, confidence, and good feeling between these Thakoors and their Suzerain will do more towards the settlement of this hitherto troublesome district than any more directly active measures of reform.

29. A regiment of cavalry and one of infantry has been raised in Shekawattee from the very material which has hitherto been regarded as productive only of anarchy and disloyalty. The recruits, as is well known, originally earned their livelihood by the unlawful practices which they are now instrumental in suppressing. The regiment is under the orders of the Nazim, and will for the present be entirely employed within their own country.

30. I am confident that the Maharaja has become aware of the necessity for energetic measures in the suppression of crime in Shekawattee, and the only cause for apprehension now appears to be that his kindly disposition and his anxiety to avoid the employment of severe

means under any circumstances should sustain the ill-disposed in an impression that they will escape punishment, whatever fault they may commit.

31. I would gladly see some more satisfactory arrangement brought into operation than that which at present exists with regard to the settlement of the numerous international cases which are constantly cropping up on the northern frontier of Jeypore, where it joins Puteeala. The Treaty for the extradition of criminals seems never to have been anything but a dead letter; neither State having ever, as far as I can discover, surrendered a single criminal on the requisition of the other. I have lately received a list containing as many as 74 cases in which Kur-noul is the plaintiff and Jeypore the defendant, and the number is equally large of cases in which the plaintiff and defendant are reversed, and there is no possible chance under the present system of their being settled. Several attempts have been made to bring about a more satisfactory state of affairs, but hitherto without any good result. I hope shortly to be able to lay the matter before you in a special Report.

Seekur.

32. I learn, not only from the assurances of the Durbar, but also from information received from persons in whose opinion I can place confidence, that Mokund Singh, the head of the Regency, and his assistants, are carrying out their work with credit to themselves and benefit to the dependency over which they have been called to preside. Commendation is due to Mokund Singh, not only for his energy and honesty of dealing in all the ordinary matters of detail, but also for the tact and judgment which he displays in all his relations with the Jeypore Durbar.

33. I regret to say that within the last few months the State has suffered a loss in the death of Tuckt Singh, one of the Thakoors associated with Mokund Singh in the management of affairs.

34. Captain Powlett has received the most cordial assistance from the Seekur Regency, and he speaks highly of the vigour with which the administration is conducted.

35. It is satisfactory to observe that the young Rao Raja has made considerable progress in his studies, and that the tutor alluded to in my predecessor's Report conducts a school with much credit in addition to his other duties. Other schools, I am credibly informed, have been established, and are progressing favourably.

Khetree.

36. The Raja of Khetree is, I regret to say, still absent from his territory, having been so for nearly two years, and the state of his health appears to be such that there is little hope of his ever returning. Under these circumstances, it is impossible that the administration can be carried on in as satisfactory a way as it ought to be. I hope to be able before long to lay before you a full Report on the administration of this dependency, so that it is unnecessary here to dwell further on the subject.

37. I append a copy of the financial Statement supplied by the Raja, which exhibits an expenditure over income of Rupees 7,300. This excess is accounted for by the extra calls for relief measures. During the year a change in the management was found necessary. Thakoor

Sobhag Singh, originally appointed to the interim management of the State, could not remain at Khetree as much as was necessary, and the actual executive labours therefore devolved more often than not on Moonshi Hurbuksh. The Raja therefore formally appointed him to the entire management of the State.

38. Major Beynon, I know, thought highly of Moonshi Hurbuksh, and I hear him spoken well of by every one who knows him. Nevertheless it is matter for much regret that this State, which at one time promised so much, should labour under the many and serious disadvantages involved in the continued absence of its Ruler. Being, as he is, at Delhi, his personal expenses must necessarily be heavy, and although I have no reason to believe that any excessive expenditure is otherwise maintained in the State, still this is a sufficient cause to act prejudicially on the finances of a small province like Khetree. On this point, however, I feel it necessary to acquire further information, and I shall hope shortly to be able to report more fully thereon.

39. The new settlement is reported as having commenced, and I am informed that it will be completed in the course of the year. The schools and various institutions, for the establishment of which the Raja received such well-deserved credit, still exist, but I fear that, owing to the long-continued absence of the Chief himself, they are much neglected.

40. The Raja and his people are so anxious to obtain the good opinion of the British Government, that the presence of the Assistant Agent of the Governor-General at Kotpootlee is likely to operate beneficially in regard to these institutions, more especially so during Captain Powlett's incumbency of the office, he being himself greatly interested in everything of this nature.

41. The relations at present existing between the Chief and the Jeypore Durbar are not by any means as satisfactory as might be wished. Jeypore complains that it does not receive from its feudatory those evidences of respect and dependence which it is its right to demand, whilst Khetree asserts that unnecessary interference is exercised in the internal administration of his State. This condition, which is destructive of anything like harmonious intercourse and subversive of any well-meant efforts towards progress, is very much to be regretted. Nevertheless, I cannot but feel myself driven to the conclusion that it has to a certain extent been brought about by the complimentary eulogy which has at various times been bestowed, both publicly and privately, on the Chief of Khetree, producing in him a thirst for independence and in the Jeypore Durbar a corresponding feeling of jealousy.

42. Nothing calling for special remark has been brought to my notice regarding any of the numerous tributaries of this State, nor do I feel myself competent after so short an acquaintance with them to hazard any opinion as to their condition on the mere hearsay evidence which I could collect. There seems, however, to exist amongst them a tolerably universal feeling of contentment as to the manner in which they are treated by their Suzerain, for which I was hardly prepared, indicating that the policy which has been pursued towards them of late years has been sound and conciliatory.

43. The Thakoors of Mulseesur, Chowkree, and Nowlghur, whose punishment for participation in dacoitee was referred to in Major Beynon's

last Report, are still detained at Jeypore; but the Maharaja seems evidently to be disposed to extend to them the pardon which was promised on their assurance of reformation. It appears to me, however, that sufficient time has barely elapsed since the execution of their sentence to permit of their being set at liberty with any hope that the short period of confinement as yet imposed upon them could have the result which was intended.

Public Works Department.

44. There has been an expenditure on public works this year amounting to Rupees 1,96,110, exclusive of establishment. I shall briefly enumerate the works executed by this department.

45. The Agra and Ajmere Road was completed in June last, just in time to facilitate the transit of the enormous supplies of grain which passed from the North-Western Provinces to Marwar, Ajmere, and the Western States of Rajpootana. This very heavy traffic told seriously on some portions of the road, and, in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining any means of conveying metal from the pits, repairs could not be effected at the proper season. The road therefore for some 15 miles of its length, which ought to have been remetalled before the rains, was very much cut up; otherwise the road is in excellent condition throughout that portion of it lying in the Jeypore territory.

46. The obstacles which existed in the early part of the year to obtaining carriage for the conveyance of kunkur to be laid on the road connecting Sambhur with the Ajmere and the Jeypore Trunk Road caused the traffic along this branch to be entirely arrested, and little is likely to be done to it in the way of repairs by the Durbar now that the lake has been taken over by the British Government.

47. The Travellers' Bungalow at Mohunpore has been much improved, and a rest-house for European travellers has been provided at Chatsoo, the half-way village between Jeypore and Tonk.

48. More attention has been devoted by the Durbar during the past year than previously to the subject of irrigation. A sum of Rupees 32,222 has been expended on works of this nature. About five miles to the north of the city, close to the village of Akhera, there is a lake known as the Bhausaugur, in which a large amount of water was annually collected without its having hitherto served any useful purpose. A sluice has therefore been constructed in the bund, permitting the water to be led by channels over the land below it to a distance of fully seven miles. In addition to the supply of water thus obtained, a nulla to the north has been diverted through a pass in the Hurwarrah hills with the view of its acting as an additional feeder to the lake. This pass, which is said to have been made by Maharaja Jey Singh about 150 years ago, is about 1,500 feet long, with an average depth of 30 feet.

49. It is calculated that the water supplied by this lake will bring a very large area of excellent land under cultivation. A gorge in the hills, situated about a mile to the eastward of the Bhansaugur, has been closed by a masonry wall backed on both sides with earth and *débris* forming a bund fifty-five feet high, thirty feet wide at the top, and three hundred feet at the bottom, and as this has hitherto been the only outlet for the water-shed of a large basin formed by these hills, a magnificent

lake will thus be enclosed. Originally this work was not intended as a means of relief to the famine-afflicted poor, but ultimately it admirably served this purpose, and a vast number of people were kept constantly employed during the past six months in its construction.

50. The extent of arable land which this lake will be capable of irrigating is very considerable, and every arrangement is being made for the regular supply of water to the agriculturists.

51. The Maunsaugur, a very large lake about a mile to the north-east of the city, is also being turned to account for purposes of irrigation. It is intended to direct the drainage from the Nahargurh hill into the Katora Lake in the city itself. Hitherto the water from this source has been entirely lost, but on Captain Jacob's suggestion that it could be utilized at a small initial cost, this work has been sanctioned.

52. Simultaneously with the above works progressing in the vicinity of the city of Jeypore, another useful scheme has been adopted for supplying the city itself from the bed of the Amanee Shah River. The small stream which flows perennially has been dammed up at various intervals along its course to a level above that of the city, and the water thus accumulated is to be conveyed into the town partly by an old masonry channel, and partly by a temporarily excavated one. By this means it is confidently hoped that the coming monsoon may see the city abundantly supplied with good water, the want of which has hitherto been much felt.

53. Early in the year all district officers were called upon to supply information as to what could best be done towards bringing into use old or injured tanks for purposes of irrigation, and also to report upon any new project which they might wish to propose for increasing the water supply in their respective districts. On the receipt of these Reports Captain Jacob visited the Zillas of Mullarua, Mozaobad, Dowsa, Hindown, and Gungerpore, taking with him a Native Surveyor. On comparing the Reports of the Zilladars with his own observations regarding the necessities and capabilities of each of the villages, he submitted an estimate to the Durbar for a series of works which he is confident would all, within four or five years, fully repay the outlay upon them.

54. This resulted in the sanction of a sum of Rupees 50,000, which was included in the original Budget Estimate for the current year. As yet, however, I do not learn that any of the works for which this sum was granted have actually been commenced.

55. The public garden to which prominent allusion was given in last year's Report had made but little progress since. The ground has been enclosed by a dwarf wall, on which wire fencing has been fixed.

The ornamental gates and railing for the front of the garden are on their way hither from England, and a nursery for young plants has been established. The difficulties hitherto attending the supply of water to the garden have not, I regret to say, been as yet overcome, and hence the work is at a stand-still: but as these difficulties are being gradually removed by the progress of the schemes to which I have already alluded above in paragraph 52, we may hope to see the work on the garden carried on with more vigour than has hitherto been displayed.

56. As might have been expected, much prejudice exists to the use of the public latrines, which were experimentally erected, and unless a

systematic effort be made to enforce their use (of which there does not at present appear to be much hope), they are likely to remain only as monuments of a willing administration lacking the executive power to carry through its own schemes for the public benefit.

57. Watering and lighting the streets, keeping the city drains clean, and works of a similar nature, more properly belonging to the Municipal Committee, have been carried on by the Department of Public Works. I may mention here that this Municipal Committee, elected in January 1868, appears hitherto to have existed in name only, since it has, either on account of internal incapacity or absence of official support, entirely failed to institute any single measure of municipal reform.

58. The survey class established in the Jeypore College, being still without a regularly appointed teacher, has been dependent on the services of one of the Department Public Works Overseers. But as the work in his own department became heavier and more extensive, Captain Jacob found it impossible to detach a subordinate from his limited establishment for these duties, and I regret to say that, as a consequence, the class has been for the time discontinued.

59. Too much credit cannot be attributed to Captain Jacob for the manner in which the public works are carried out, and the numerous requirements of the Durbar in this direction fulfilled. His strict sense of duty, honesty of purpose, and unflinching energy, have secured for Jeypore advantages which render the services of this officer eminently valuable, and although my own acquaintance with him extends but over a limited period, I have seen sufficient to induce me to form the very highest opinion of him, and to convince me that his bearing with all classes of natives with whom he comes in contact tends more to raise their estimation of British officers than that which most Government servants maintain towards them; and when I add that all the duties connected with the charitable operations inaugurated for the supply of labour and food to the poor were borne by Captain Jacob and his establishment in excess of their more immediate work, I only bear a just testimony to the useful position which this officer occupies here.

Education.

60. The progress of the college has been very satisfactory. Out of four candidates who went up for the matriculation examination for the Calcutta University, three were successful, one passing in the 1st division and two in the second. Four students intend submitting themselves to the next examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

61. The subjoined Statistical Return supplies full information regarding the number of pupils on the rolls, the daily average attendance and cost of the maintenance of the college, and of the school supported by the Maharaja for the education of the sons of Thakoors and the better class of natives.

| Name of Institution. | Locality. | When established. | NUMBER OF PUPILS ON THE ROLL AT THE END OF THE YEAR. | | | | Average daily attendance. | NUMBER OF PUPILS STUDYING EACH LANGUAGE AT THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR. | | | | | | CHARGES. | | | DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RECEIPTS AND CHARGES. | | Annual cost of educating each pupil. | REMARKS. | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------|--|-------------|-------------|--------|---------------------------|---|----------|-------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|----------------|--------|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| | | | Hindoo. | Mahomedans. | Christians. | Total. | | English. | Persian. | Urdu. | Arabic. | Sanskrit. | Hindee. | Current. | Extraordinary. | Total. | Excess of receipts. | Excess of charges. | | | |
| Jeypore Maharaja's College. | Jeypore ... | A. D. 1845 | 324 | 63 | 2 | 389 | 301 | 311 | 110 | 208 | 33 | 3 | 2 | 11,916 | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. a. p. | Number of pupils at the end of 1868-69 ... 259 Number of boys admitted during 1869-70 332 Number withdrawn ... 202 |
| Rajpoot School. | Jeypore ... | 1862 | 51 | 8 | .. | 59 | 34 | 55 | 46 | | .. | 13 | .. | 3,012 | Rs. | 120 | 3,012 | | 51 0 10 | Rajpoot School. Number on the roll at the end of 1868-69 ... 14 Number admitted during 1869-70 ... 46 Number withdrawn ... 1 | |

62. With the view of supplying teachers for the district schools, a pupil teacher class has been lately instituted, and I have every reason to anticipate beneficial results from this measure if the district schools are raised to a sufficiently high standard to offer adequate inducements to advanced pupils to qualify themselves for the work.

63. The head master, Baboo Kantee Chunder Mookerjee, who has filled his present position since 1864, deserves great credit for the manner in which the college is conducted and for the good name it bears.

64. The attendance at the Thakoor's school has improved since last year, but I am afraid that the advantages which this school offers are not sufficiently appreciated by the class for whom it was instituted. By far the larger number of pupils at present attending are the sons of bankers: very few Thakoors send their sons to it as yet, so that I cannot consider the result so far as satisfactory. Nevertheless, it is much to find that education is progressing in any form amongst the people, and every effort in this direction is worthy of the warmest commendation.

65. His Highness the Maharaja is well aware that the object with which the school was founded has not been achieved, and he recently took an opportunity of informing me that he has had the subject under frequent consideration in the hope of being able to bring about the end he has in view.

66. Particulars as to attendance and cost of the Sanscrit College and Chandpall Branch School are tabulated in the subjoined Return.

67. I cannot speak of any of the district schools from personal acquaintance with them, not having had any opportunity of visiting them. But from all I can learn, there are few, if any, that yield satisfactory results, and do not require remodelling on a more efficient basis. The Maharaja, who, I am sure, has the progress of his people sincerely at heart, may, I hope, be induced to take up the subject and adopt measures for the more complete carrying out of his benevolent purposes.

68. In the Appendix will be found a list of these schools as they at present exist, with the number of pupils attending each.
Marked C. and D.

69. In October last Dr. DeFabeck, of the Deolee Irregular Force, assumed the superintendence of the Jeypore School of Arts, and already the progress made in every branch under his supervision is making itself plainly evident. The Durbar is most fortunate in having secured the assistance of one so peculiarly and eminently fitted in every respect for the work necessary to make this institution the real benefit it ought to be, and I feel confident that, if Dr. DeFabeck receives support and encouragement, the Jeypore School of Arts will soon occupy a very prominent position in India.

70. The Report which Dr. DeFabeck has kindly submitted to me explains in very far fuller terms, and in a better manner than I can pretend to do myself, what has already been done and what it is proposed to do in the school, that I am sure it will be read with great interest, and I have therefore appended a copy* of it to this Report.
* Marked E.

71. The Female School continues to flourish in a very satisfactory manner. There are 155 scholars on the rolls, and the daily average attendance is 128. The school is divided into eight classes, in seven of which Hindee is taught, and as the eighth consists entirely of Mahomedan girls, they are instructed in Urdu.

72. On all sides I hear that the management under its teacher, Mrs. Ockelton, is excellent. As the examination of the scholars is confined to ladies, I have not the means of bearing personal witness to their acquirements, but all the ladies whom I have questioned on the subject agree in testifying that great progress has been made in all branches, especially in needle-work.

73. The head teacher informs me that she has now six pupil teachers sufficiently advanced to give her material assistance in her educational duties.

Jail.

74. A Return giving full statistics of the Jeypore Jail, as far as I have been able to obtain them, will be found in the Appendix marked F.†
† (Not submitted, having already been sent with the Dispensary Report.)

75. It will be observed that there has been a larger proportion of sick than that recorded in the year 1868-69. There was, it is true, an outbreak of cholera, during which 19 deaths occurred, but Dr. Burr, who was in medical charge of the jail until the 1st December 1869, attributes the general increase of sickness to overcrowding during a period of about six months, to the coarse flour which was at one time issued to the prisoners, and to the late hour at which the rations were received.

76. Creditable progress has been made in the quantity and quality of the various articles manufactured within the jail, giving promise of still further improvement.

77. Since last Report the following works have been introduced :— Cotton-weaving, boot and shoe-making, brass-moulding, &c. The female prisoners are instructed in plain and fancy needle-work, embroidery, knitting, netting, and crochet.

78. The medical charge of the jail was entrusted to Dr. Valentine, in addition to his duties as Superintendent, on the 1st December 1869, the Durbar being anxious to bring it under the management and control of its own officers, and to avoid the unpleasant differences to which the divided charge was continually liable.

79. The general discipline is good. On one occasion, however, an attempt at escape was made by some desperate characters, some of them actually succeeding in getting away, but only to be speedily recaptured.

Medical Institutions.

80. The city dispensaries under Dr. Burr appear to work very well. A Table added to the Appendix gives the results of work performed in all the medical institutions and the amount of money expended on them.

Marked G. and H.
(Not submitted, having been
already sent with the Dis-
pensary Report.)

81. I regret to say that during the year the Durbar thought it necessary to close the midwifery hospital. To economy has been attributed the necessity for this measure, but I am told that the eager anxiety for practice displayed by some of the nurses educated there excited a strong prejudice against it. Up to the end of November, the date on which the hospital was closed, sixty-two cases had been treated.

82. District Dispensaries under Dr. Burr's supervision have lately been established at the following places:—Mowah, Dowsa, Chatsoo, Hindown, Doodoo, and Achrole. A Statement detailing the cost of all the dispensaries and hospitals maintained by the Durbar is annexed. In addition to these dispensaries the Durbar support 27 Hakeems at various towns and villages in the territory, whose pay varies from Rupees 10 to Rupees 15 a month, and whatever their skill and acquirements, they appear to be very highly esteemed by the people of the villages in which they reside.

Vaccination.

83. The following Table exhibits a comparison of the number of persons vaccinated during 1869-70 with that of the previous year, from which it appears that considerably fewer persons were vaccinated during the present than during the previous year :—

| | | Total Vaccinated. | Successful. |
|------------------------------------|---------|----------------------|-------------|
| Vaccination performed in Jeypore { | 1868-69 | 16,971 | 13,119 |
| and its districts ... { | 1869-70 | 13,774 | 10,477 |

Dr. Burr reports that this diminution in the numbers is in great measure due to the carelessness of three of the vaccinators, who have since been dismissed.

84. In the way of forest conservancy nothing new has been done. This branch of executive administration has been entrusted to Thakoor Sheonath Singh, who originally had charge of all the sporting grounds, but as yet I cannot say that he has displayed any special qualifications for this responsible position.

85. The encroachments of the drifting sands around Jeypore are yearly becoming more and more serious, and it is earnestly to be desired that His Highness may in the course of the current year be induced to adopt some such measures as those suggested by Dr. Brandis, Inspector-General of Government Forests, in his Report on the subject.

Meteorological Observations.

86. Such meteorological observations as it has been possible to record have been tabulated in the Statement marked I. in the Appendix.

SAMBHUR LAKE.

87. The portion of the Sambhur Lake formerly appertaining to the States of Jeypore and Jodhpore was taken over by the British Government on the 1st February 1870 under the terms of the Treaty concluded the 7th August 1869.

88. The year has been a peculiarly favourable one for the collection of salt. In consequence of the lake being more than ordinarily low, evaporation has been very rapid, and the deposit of salt larger than has been known for many years.

89. Since the lake was transferred, everything has worked satisfactorily. The numerous complaints which were formerly made of the piratical levying of black-mail have almost ceased to exist; and when it is remembered that there is scarcely a village in the whole of the Jeypore territory where Bhoom, or some equally oppressive impost, was not levied, all of which have been since relinquished, it speaks more than at first sight appears for the authority of the Durbar over the numerous independent Chiefs and Thakoors to whom this source of revenue is for the future closed.

KISHENGURH.

90. I regret that since my arrival at Jeypore my duties have prevented my visiting Kishengurh, which, on the redistribution of the Rajpootana States, was, in May last, placed under the political supervision of this Office.

91. The following Statement of revenues has been furnished to me by the Maharaja of that place:—

| RECEIPTS. | Amount. | EXPENSES. | Amount. |
|---|---------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Revenue from Khalsa villages | ... | Personal expenses | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> 2,341 15 3 |
| Customs | ... | Military expenses and servants | 91,861 7 6 |
| Revenue from villages held in jaghire by members of the Zenana and Sehapore for the private purse | | Charity | 1,684 0 0 |
| ... | ... | Buildings and Karkhanas | 63,600 4 0 |
| ... | ... | Enamee or presents | 3,639 1 6 |
| ... | ... | Miscellaneous expenses | 8,955 12 0 |
| ... | ... | Revenue of Zenana Jaghire villages | 48,000 0 0 |
| Total, Rs. ... | | Total, Rs. ... | 2,20,082 8 3 |

92. From this it appears that the expenses have exceeded the revenue by about Rupees 25,000. His Highness has expressed to me his belief that this deficit will be made up by the increased revenue likely to accrue from the lands brought under cultivation by tanks constructed within the last two years, and to which, I observe, allusion was made in the Report for 1869.

93. The harvest is said not to have reached more than half that of average years, but the grass crop is described as being quite as good as usual.

94. I propose taking as early an opportunity as I can possibly secure of visiting Kishengurh and making myself personally acquainted with its Chief and people.

POST OFFICES.

95. No change that I am aware of has taken place in the Government Post Offices in these districts. The Return marked J. in the Appendix, giving comparison of the receipts of the several Post Offices during the past year, compared with those of the previous year, indicates a slight increase on letters, but a considerable decrease on banghy parcels.

96. Four attacks were made on the Government mail during the past twelve months,—one on the ordinary mail and three on the banghy mail. Only on one occasion were the thieves traced. In two cases the State in which the robbery occurred paid the amount of property plundered, and two are still under enquiry.

LAWA.

97. Nothing can be more unsatisfactory than the condition of the Lawa Estate. The Statement of receipts and expenditure herewith subjoined having only reached me at the last moment, I am quite unable at present to say how far it is correct, and I am therefore compelled to give it here for what it is worth.

STATEMENT showing the receipts and disbursements of Iawa for the year 1869-70.

| RECEIPTS. | | Amount. | Total. | DISBURSEMENTS. | | Amount. | Total. |
|------------------------|----|------------------|------------------|---|----|------------------|------------------|
| | | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> | | | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> |
| Land Revenue .. | .. | 1,723 11 3 | 3,148 14 3 | Paigah or Stud Establishment .. | .. | 236 0 0 | 3,148 14 3 |
| Bhooms (or customs) .. | .. | 526 12 0 | | Expenses do. .. | .. | 577 12 0 | |
| Fines .. | .. | 30 8 0 | | Pay of sepoys .. | .. | 324 0 0 | |
| Miscellaneous .. | .. | 173 7 0 | | Rusorah or table expenses .. | .. | 709 10 0 | |
| Loan .. | .. | 680 0 0 | | Stationery .. | .. | 15 0 0 | |
| Balance .. | .. | 14 8 0 | | Charity .. | .. | 74 4 0 | |
| | | | | Constructing boundary pillars .. | .. | 652 0 0 | |
| | | | | Pay and other expenses of the Vakeel in attendance on Political Agent, Jeypore .. | .. | 329 0 0 | |
| | | | | Miscellaneous .. | .. | 234 4 3 | |
| Total, Receipts .. | .. | | 3,148 14 3 | Total, Disbursements .. | .. | | 3,148 14 3 |

Dues amounting to Rupees 62-12 from tradesmen were on account of the famine.

98. It will be observed that, without one single rupee having been paid towards the liquidation of the heavy balance due for arrears of tribute, a loan of Rupees 694-8 was necessary to meet the ordinary expenses. The following Statement shows the account of the tribute :—

| | | Madhopoorce Government Rupees. Rupees. | |
|---|--|---|------------------|
| | | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> | <i>Rs. a. p.</i> |
| Due to Tonk State. | From Sumbut 1920 Rubbee harvest to Sumbut 1923 Rubbee harvest, <i>i. e.</i> , June 1867 ... | Rs. 10,503 8 0 | |
| | Tax account for Kharee Agur for three years up to above date, @ Rs. 30 per annum ... | 90 0 0 | |
| | Total, Rs. | 10,593 8 0 | |
| | Deduct— | | |
| | Amount paid in Sumbut 1923 ... | Rs. 2,001 0 0 | |
| | Bhoom as per Agent, Governor-General's orders, for two years, Sumbut 1922 and 1923, @ Rs. 275 per year ... | 550 0 0 | |
| | Amount paid on the 18th July 1868 ... | 250 0 0 | |
| | Total, Rs. | 2,801 0 0 | |
| | | | 7,792 8 0 |
| | Difference between Madhopoorce and Government Rupees at the rate of 92 Madhopoorce Rupees per 100 Government Rupees ... | | 623 6 4 |
| | | | 7,169 1 8 |
| Account of tribute since separated from Tonk. | From Sumbut 1924 Khureef harvest to Sumbut 1926 Rubbee harvest, Fuslee 1278, <i>i. e.</i> , 27th August 1870, or Bhadon Sud Akum Sumbut 1926 ... | Rs. 9,003 0 0 | |
| | Tax on account of Kharee Agur for three years up to above date, @ Rs. 30 per year ... | 90 0 0 | |
| | Total, Rs. | 9,093 0 0 | |
| | Deduct— | | |
| | Bhoom as per Agent, Governor-General's order, for above three years, @ Rs. 275 per year ... | Rs. 825 0 0 | |
| | Amount paid on the 18th July 1868 ... | 1,500 0 0 | |
| | Total, Rs. | 2,325 0 0 | |
| | | | 6,768 0 0 |
| | Exchange at the rate of 92 Madhopoorce per 100 Government Rupees ... | | 541 7 0 |
| | | | 6,226 9 0 |
| Total Government Rupees due by Lawa estate on account of tribute up to Sumbut 1926, <i>i. e.</i> , 27th August 1870 ... | | | 13,395 10 8 |

99. Your letter No. 331P., dated 7th August 1868, to the address of the Political Agent of Haraotee, conveyed instructions that the pensioners whose relations met their death at Tonk in August 1867 should be paid from the arrears of tribute due to Tonk. The already embarrassed condition of the Lawa finances rendered compliance with this order impossible, and, in default, two payments amounting to Rupees 3,508-14 have been advanced by the Treasurer of this Office.

100. It is evident that something must shortly be done to save the estate from hopeless ruin. As soon as practicable I will submit a separate Report on the subject, but it is doubtful whether I shall be able to collect sufficient reliable information to enable me to form any just conclusion as to its real condition without visiting Lawa myself.

Punchayet.

101. A Return is supplied in the Appendix * showing the number of cases which have been before the International Court of Vakeels, and the manner

* Marked K. and L.
of their disposal. There is nothing of which I am aware in the proceedings of the Court during the past year particularly worthy of remark.

102. Considerable difficulty exists in recovering from some of the States the sums due to the Treasurer of this Agency for advances made on account of awards given by the International Court of Vakeels. The following is a Statement of sums now due:—

| | | | <i>Rs.</i> | <i>a.</i> | <i>p.</i> |
|--------------------|-----|-----|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Due by Jeypore ... | ... | ... | 4,187 | 12 | 9 |
| „ Marwar ... | ... | ... | 28,073 | 7 | 9 |
| „ Biccaneere | ... | ... | 24,112 | 8 | 6 |
| „ Kishengurh | ... | ... | 1,897 | 14 | 6 |
| „ Tonk ... | ... | ... | 1,597 | 6 | 6 |
| „ Ulwar ... | ... | ... | 4,035 | 7 | 6 |
| „ Kerowlee | ... | ... | 404 | 1 | 6 |
| | | | <hr/> | | |
| | | | 65,938 | 13 | 6 |
| | | | <hr/> | | |

Trade.

103. The completion of the survey for the Rajpootana Railway, and the probability of the work thereon being commenced in the course of the next cold season, render everything connected with the trade of the country through which it is to pass doubly interesting.

104. I have been at some considerable trouble since my arrival here in collecting as much information as I could concerning the trade of Jeypore and its district; and incomplete as such information necessarily must be in consequence of my short tenure of this office, I am yet not without hope that it may offer some points of interest.

105. The following Return shows what the external trade of the city of Jeypore is stated to have been for the year 1924 or 1868, the latest for which any statistical computation could be made:—

STATEMENT showing Estimate of Exports from Jeypore City, taken from the Return for the Sumbut 1924 or 1888.

| No. | Names of Articles. | To EAST, AGRA. | | To THE NORTH, BIRWANEE, RENWAREE, &c. | | To THE WEST, AJMER, PALLEE, NUSSEER-ABAD. | | To THE SOUTH, TONK AND HARAOTEE. | | TOTAL. | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------|---|--------|----------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | Maunds. | Price. | Maunds. | Price. | Maunds. | Price. | Maunds. | Price. | Maunds. | Price. |
| 1 | Sugar .. | | Rs. | | Rs. | | Rs. | | Rs. | | Rs. |
| 2 | Goor, coarse sugar, rice .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Groceries (Kirana) .. | 250 | 1,875 | | | | | 130 | 975 | 380 | 2,850 |
| 4 | Cloth, fine and coarse .. | 40 | 4,000 | 200 | 2,600 | 3,150 | 15,750 | 700 | 70,000 | 4,150 | 2,24,100 |
| 5 | Metals .. | 12 | 600 | | | 43 | 2,100 | 17 | 8,500 | 77 | 3,550 |
| 6 | Pedlars' wares .. | 200 | 10,000 | 470 | 2,350 | 730 | 3,650 | 330 | 1,650 | 1,730 | 8,650 |
| 7 | Silk, pushmeena, or gold cloth .. | Seers, 4½ | 450 | Seers, 9 | 900 | Mds. seers, 4 16 | 1,760 | Seers, 25 | 2,500 | Mds. seers, 5 14½ | 21,450 |
| 8 | Kusoma (or safflower) .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Tobacco .. | | | | | 53 | 385 | 23 | 161 | 78 | 516 |
| 10 | Opium .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | Indigo .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | Potatoes .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | Ghee .. | | | | | 110 | 3,300 | 16 | 480 | 126 | 3,780 |
| 14 | Til .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | Charun things .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | Cotton .. | 10,500 | 1,30,000 | | | | | | | 10,500 | 1,30,000 |
| 17 | Oil seed .. | 32,000 | 32,000 | | | | | | | 32,000 | 32,000 |
| 18 | Arlo .. | | | | | | | 40 | 400 | 40 | 400 |
| | Total .. | Mds. seers, 43,002 4½ | 1,78,925 | Mds. seers, 730 9 | 5,850 | Mds. seers, 4,091 16 | 20,915 | Mds. seers, 1,256 25 | 84,666 | Mds. seers, 49,080 1½ | 2,96,336 |

STATEMENT showing the Estimate of Imports of the Jeypore City, taken from the Return for the Sumbut 1924 or 1868.

| No. | Names of Articles. | FROM THE EAST, AGRA. | | FROM THE NORTH RE- WARD, BHEWANEE, AND DELHI. | | FROM THE WEST, PAL- LEE, NUSSEERABAD, MARWAR. | | FROM THE SOUTH, TONEK, HARIOTED. | | TOTAL. | |
|----------|---|----------------------|------------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| | | Maunds. | Price. Rs. | Maunds. | Price. Rs. | Maunds. | Price. Rs. | Maunds. | Price. Rs. | Maunds. | Price. Rs. |
| 1 | Sugar .. | 28,000 | 4,55,000 | 6,000 | 1,65,000 | | | | | 32,000 | 5,60,000 |
| 2 | Goor, coarse sugar, rice, til, singara .. | 22,000 | 1,65,000 | 23,000 | 1,72,500 | | | | | 45,000 | 3,37,500 |
| 3 | Groceries (Kirana) .. | 1,200 | 9,000 | 6,000 | 45,000 | 770 | 5,775 | 175 | 1,312 | 8,115 | 61,087 |
| 4 | Cloth, coarse and fine .. | 600 | 1,00,000 | 3,100 | 4,90,000 | 200 | 15,000 | 27 | 4,800 | 4,227 | 6,09,800 |
| 5 | Metals .. | 40 | 1,100 | 2,200 | 77,000 | 7 | 215 | | | 2,217 | 78,615 |
| 6 | Silk, pushmeena, and gold cloth .. | 17 | 800 | 67 | 31,200 | 10 | 2,000 | | | 91 | 31,600 |
| 7 | Peddars' wares .. | 600 | 30,000 | 900 | 45,000 | 150 | 7,500 | 17 | 850 | 1,667 | 83,350 |
| 8 | Kusoma (or safflower) .. | 60 | 1,200 | 3,200 | 61,000 | | | | | 3,200 | 65,200 |
| 9 | Tobacco, Pallee .. | | | | | 2,000 | 50,000 | | | 2,000 | 50,000 |
| 10 | Tobacco .. | 1,500 2,500 | 11,700 17,500 | 70 | 490 | | | | | 1,630 2,500 | 12,130 17,500 |
| 11 | Opium .. | 15 | 6,100 | | | 5 | 3,000 | | | 20 | 9,100 |
| 12 | Indigo .. | 40 | 4,800 | | | | | | | 40 | 4,800 |
| 13 | Potatoes .. | 70 | 560 | 30 | 210 | | | | | 100 | 800 |
| 14 | Pan .. | | | | | | | 737 | 19,950 | 737 | 19,950 |
| 15 | Ghee .. | 900 | 27,000 | 400 | 12,000 | | | 500 | 15,000 | 1,800 | 51,000 |
| 16 | Oil .. | 60 | 600 | 90 | 9,000 | | | 50 | 850 | 200 | 10,450 |
| 17 | Til seed .. | 2,200 | 13,750 | | | | | | | 2,200 | 13,750 |
| 18 | Gram .. | 3,700 | 7,100 | 100,000 | 2,00,000 | 7,000 | 11,000 | | | 110,700 | 2,21,100 |
| 19 | Iron .. | 75,000 | 75,000 | | | | | | | 75,000 | 75,000 |
| Total .. | | 138,502 | 9,27,110 | 113,357 | 12,51,130 | 10,112 | 98,120 | 1,620 | 42,762 | 203,587 | 23,10,762 |

106. Below I have inserted a Return giving a tolerably accurate estimate of the trade of the Jeypore territory of the past year, exclusive of salt, constructed in accordance with information gained from every source at my disposal:—

| EXPORTS. | | | | IMPORTS. | | | |
|---|-----|-----------|-----------|---|-----|-----------|-----------|
| Rs. | | | | Rs. | | | |
| Cotton ... | ... | ... | 4,00,000 | Grain from North-Western Provinces | ... | ... | 20,00,000 |
| Grain ... | ... | ... | 12,00,000 | Groceries ... | ... | ... | 11,00,000 |
| Groceries ... | ... | ... | 75,000 | Metals ... | ... | ... | 1,00,000 |
| Pedlars' wares ... | ... | ... | | Piece goods and country cloth | ... | ... | 6,00,000 |
| Metals ... | ... | ... | | Silk, pushmeena, and gold cloth | ... | ... | 50,000 |
| Tobacco ... | ... | ... | | Pedlars' wares ... | ... | ... | 1,00,000 |
| Ghee ... | ... | ... | 3,00,000 | Safflower ... | ... | ... | 1,00,000 |
| Pieces of goods and cloth | ... | ... | | Tobacco ... | ... | ... | 75,000 |
| Sugar and goor ... | ... | ... | | Opium ... | ... | ... | 25,000 |
| Silk, pushmeena, and gold cloth | ... | ... | | Pan ... | ... | ... | 25,000 |
| Oil seed ... | ... | ... | 50,000 | Ghee ... | ... | ... | 75,000 |
| Miscellaneous, exclusive of precious metals and precious stones | ... | ... | 5,00,000 | Oil and oil seed ... | ... | ... | 25,000 |
| | | | | Gram ... | ... | ... | 2,00,000 |
| | | | | Miscellaneous, not including precious stones and precious metals. | ... | ... | 5,00,000 |
| | | | | Sugar, rice, and goor ... | ... | ... | 8,00,000 |
| Total, Rs. | ... | 26,50,000 | | Total, Rs. | ... | 57,75,000 | |

107. The scarcity of grain which has existed since 1868 has produced a large trade in cereals. In 1868-69 a quantity of grain valued at no less than 20 lakhs of Rupees appears to have been imported, taking the place of imported gold.

108. Jeypore supplies nearly the whole of Rajpootana with gold, silver, and precious stones, but during the last two years of scarcity the trade in these articles has very much diminished.

109. Business is certainly not so active as to account for the enormous banking transactions which are continually going on. The only probable explanation is, that Jeypore is, as it were, a sort of Lombard Street to Rajpootana, and the amount of legitimate trade actually done within its walls has little influence on its banking interests.

110. There are as many as seven Banking Firms, doing an aggregate business estimated at two crores and a half of rupees per annum, and possessing a capital of upwards of six millions sterling. In addition to the above there are many Seths with means under a lakh of rupees whose collective business is not less than half a crore a year.

111. The import of gold before 1868 could not have been less than 75 lakhs of Rupees, the greater portion of which was buried by the many rich merchants who have their houses in these States. If it has ever reached, it has never exceeded, 25 lakhs of Rupees during the last two years, but a large amount of gold produced by its possessors in consequence of the high prices lately prevailing has found its way into Jeypore. This circumstance, combined with that of the influx of grain, has caused a great fall in the value of the precious metal.

112. The following Table shows the present price of gold and silver:—

| | | | | Rs. | a. | p. |
|---------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Gold | ... { | China Leaf per tola | ... | ... | 15 | 7 11 |
| | | Bar gold | ... | ... | 15 | 4 3 |
| <i>Jeypore Rupees.</i> | | | | | | |
| Silver | ... { | Silver hoofs per 100 tolas | ... | ... | 98 | 0 0 |
| | | Silver Bricks | ... | ... | 99 | 8 0 |
| Government Rupees per 100 | | ... | ... | ... | 103 | 0 0 |

Conclusion.

113. In forwarding this Report it is, I think, but just to myself to mention that, in the absence on six months' furlough of Mr. Howard, the Head Clerk of this Office, without a substitute capable in any degree of performing his duties, much more of the current labour has been thrown upon me than otherwise would; and I have, consequently, been prevented from devoting as much time and care to the preparation of this Report as I should have wished to do.

114. I cannot, however, conclude without bearing testimony to the friendly disposition which His Highness the Maharaja has invariably displayed in all the intercourse I have had with him, and to his willing readiness in meeting, as far as possible, the wishes of Her Majesty's Government.

115. The good services of Moomtaz Oodawla, Nawab Fyz Ali Khan Bahadoor, the Minister, have been so recently before Her Majesty's Government, and have received from it such honorable and well-merited acknowledgment, that it is needless for me to allude to them any further here. I do most fully and cordially endorse all the expressions of good opinion recorded by Major Beynon in his latest Reports.

A.

RETURN of Jeypore Dhurmsala, showing total number of Daily Muster.

| | September 1862. | October. | November. | December. | January 1870. | February. | March. | Total. | REMARKS. |
|------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|--------|--------|----------|
| Men and Women | 34,408 | 29,189 | 4,415 | 3,918 | 4,350 | 3,806 | 364 | 74,450 | |
| Children | 19,491 | 17,819 | 2,947 | 2,883 | 2,083 | 1,351 | 162 | 46,636 | |
| DEATH, viz.— | 31 | 54 | 20 | 10 | 8 | 5 | | 128 | |
| Men... | 16 | 17 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 1 | | 49 | |
| Women... | 9 | 21 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 2 | | 44 | |
| Children | 6 | 16 | 8 | 3 | | 2 | | 35 | |
| SICK TREATED | 80 | 140 | 123 | 117 | 121 | 88 | 14 | 683 | |
| TRAVELLERS | | | 1,130 | 1,406 | 1,295 | 964 | 223 | 5,018 | |
| British subjects | | | 244 | 366 | 208 | 114 | 12 | 578 | |
| Marwar " | | | 259 | 245 | 217 | 123 | 55 | 949 | |
| Uluur " | | | 12 | 52 | 34 | 83 | 8 | 189 | |
| Tonk " | | | 72 | 97 | 80 | 114 | 22 | 385 | |
| Gwalior " | | | 16 | 11 | 39 | 2 | 4 | 72 | |
| Kishengurh " | | | 11 | 31 | 64 | 43 | 24 | 173 | |
| Bhuthpore " | | | 6 | 15 | 21 | 3 | | 45 | |
| Boondoo " | | | 13 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 36 | |
| Kerowlee " | | | 21 | 29 | 13 | 6 | 10 | 89 | |
| Kotah " | | | 17 | 3 | 7 | | | 27 | |
| Bicanero " | | | 40 | 25 | 50 | 20 | | 135 | |
| Raj " | | | 419 | 525 | 502 | 417 | 69 | 1,932 | |

The muster of travellers relieved was not taken separately for these months.

(Sd.) E. R. C. BRADFORD, Capt.,
Offg. Poltl. Agent, Jeypore.

STATEMENT showing the emigration that took place from various Zillas, Pergunnahs, and Talookahs of the Jeypore State owing to the scarcity of 1868-69.

| NAMES OF ZILLAS, &c. | EMIGRATED. | | | RETURNED. | | | STILL ABSENT. | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------------|--------|-----------|----------|--------|---------------|----------|--------|
| | Total houses, | Total ploughs, | Souls, | Houses, | Ploughs, | Souls, | Houses, | Ploughs, | Souls. |
| Madhoopore, Zilla | 900 | 700 | 3,600 | 200 | 200 | 800 | 700 | 500 | 2,800 |
| Bugvuntgarh, Talookah | 70 | 10 | 280 | 5 | | 20 | 65 | 10 | 260 |
| Kundar, Talookah | 200 | 70 | 1,750 | 25 | 40 | 105 | 175 | 30 | 645 |
| Mullarna-Doongri, Zilla | 400 | 200 | 1,600 | 50 | 25 | 200 | 350 | 175 | 1,400 |
| Bowree, Pergunnah | 800 | 100 | 3,200 | 50 | | 200 | 750 | 100 | 3,000 |
| Mullarna Chare, Talookah | | | 100 | | | | | | 100 |
| Mundawri, Talookah | | | 100 | | | | | | 100 |
| Kerni in Gungapore, Talookah | | | 150 | | | | | | 150 |
| Gungapore, Zilla | | | 800 | 50 | 20 | 200 | 150 | 30 | 600 |
| Napuldee, Talookah | | | 200 | | | | | | 200 |
| Hindown, Zilla | 400 | 200 | 1,600 | 100 | 50 | 400 | 300 | 150 | 1,200 |
| Wuzerpore, Talookah | 25 | | 100 | 10 | | 40 | 15 | | 60 |
| Malpoora, Zilla | 1,200 | 200 | 3,500 | 150 | | 650 | 1,150 | 200 | 2,950 |
| Toto Rae Singh, Pergunnah | 1,100 | 200 | 3,500 | 100 | | 500 | 1,000 | 200 | 3,000 |
| Jamba, Talookah | 200 | 100 | 500 | 50 | | 250 | 150 | 50 | 250 |
| Panwah, Talookah | 113 | 200 | 350 | | | | 112 | 200 | 350 |
| Phogee, Zilla | 800 | 300 | 2,500 | 125 | | 725 | 675 | | 2,775 |
| Mozabad, Pergunnah | 1,500 | 500 | 3,000 | 100 | | 500 | 1,400 | | 2,500 |
| Neerana, do. | 500 | 75 | 1,200 | 45 | | 225 | 435 | 75 | 975 |
| Choksoo, do. | 1,500 | 300 | 2,500 | 500 | | 1,500 | 1,500 | 300 | 1,000 |
| Newoll, do. | 200 | 100 | 500 | 50 | | 250 | 150 | 100 | 250 |
| Madhorajpoora, Talookah... | 125 | 50 | 625 | 50 | | 250 | 75 | 50 | 375 |

Sd.)

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Offg. Poltl. Agent, Jeypore.

C.

TABULAR STATEMENT showing the number of Vernacular Schools in the Zilla of Jeypore.

| | | Persian School. | Hindee School. | Total number of schools. | Total number of pupils. | REMARKS. |
|----------------------------|-----|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Zilla Hindown | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 82 | |
| „ Sewaee Madhopore | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 40 | |
| „ Charsoo | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 49 | |
| Pergunnah Newayee | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 47 | |
| Zilla Milarna | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 | 23 | |
| „ Dawsah | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 14 | |
| „ Buswa | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 25 | |
| „ Byrat | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 22 | |
| Pergunnah Praghoora | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 12 | |
| Zilla Tourawattee Ramgurh | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 18 | |
| Pergunnah Sambhur | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 15 | |
| Talookah Sree Madhopore | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 | 14 | |
| „ Kote Bunawur | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 15 | |
| Pergunnah Toda Roy Singh | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 | 15 | |
| Kusba Sanganeer | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 57 | |
| „ Amair | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 | 20 | |
| <i>Zilla Shekhawattee.</i> | | | | | | |
| Oodeypore | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 9 | |
| Jhoonjnoo | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 | |
| Tekanaka Gaon | ... | 7 | 0 | 7 | 50 | |
| Total | ... | 21 | 9 | 30 | 532 | |

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D.

TABULAR STATEMENT showing the number of Mukhtubs and Chut-solas in the Jeypore territory partially supported by the Raj.

| LOCALITIES. | | | Mukhtubs. | Chut-solas. | Total. | Total number of pupils. |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----------|-------------|--------|-------------------------|
| Sewae Jeypore | ... | ... | 44 | 92 | 136 | 1,358 |
| Zilla do. | ... | ... | ... | 37 | 37 | 645 |
| „ Hindown | ... | ... | ... | 7 | 7 | 127 |
| „ Sewae Madhopore | ... | ... | 1 | 8 | 9 | 232 |
| „ Charsoo | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 8 | 141 |
| „ Milarna | ... | ... | 2 | 13 | 15 | 376 |
| „ Dawsah | ... | ... | ... | 25 | 25 | 422 |
| „ Buswa | ... | ... | 1 | 15 | 16 | 328 |
| „ Tourawattee | ... | ... | 2 | 31 | 33 | 1,228 |
| Pergunnah Sambhur | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 | 60 |
| Zilla Gungapore | ... | ... | 1 | 11 | 12 | 278 |
| „ Sallsote | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 6 | 244 |
| „ Toda Bheem | ... | ... | 1 | 6 | 7 | 127 |
| „ Shekhawattee | ... | ... | 5 | 30 | 35 | 1,080 |
| „ Malpoorah | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 8 | 227 |
| „ Fagee | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 4 | 69 |
| „ Byrat | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 4 | 63 |
| „ Kote Kassem | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 55 |
| | | | 58 | 309 | 367 | 7,060 |

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Offg. Poltl. Agent, Jeypore.

E.

Report on the present condition of the Jeypore Government School of Arts,
dated 12th May 1870.

In the month of February 1867, Dr. Hunter, the Principal of the Madras School of Arts, chanced, while on a tour through some of the most interesting districts of the Bengal Presidency, to visit Agra, and happening there to meet Dr. Valentine, the idea of establishing a similar school in Jeypore naturally suggested itself to them both.

2. At Dr. Valentine's request Dr. Hunter was induced to make a deviation from his original plans and visit Jeypore, and here discovering the many natural resources which this city and district possess, both as to industrial skill in the population and richness of indigenous products, he warmly advocated the advantages of such a scheme before His Highness the Maharaja, and the result was, that in June of that same year the present School of Arts was founded.

3. Its earliest operations were carried on in a shed at the Badul Mehal, but in January of the following year it was removed to the splendid and commodious building it now occupies; and in spite of the many difficulties and hindrances which have attended its working since that time, it has gradually grown into a useful and prosperous school for the education of artizans in many branches of the useful and ornamental arts.

4. My own connexion with it dates only from the commencement of last year. Happening accidentally to be at Jeypore at the time, my sympathies with everything connected with art led me to take some considerable interest in this school, which was gracefully acknowledged by the Maharaja in the expression of a wish that the charge of this institution should be intrusted to me.

5. At that time I found it struggling against conditions likely to prove quite inimical to its progress beyond a very circumscribed and rudimentary limit, and in a Report which I drew up at the time I enumerated these, and expressed my opinion as to what appeared to me to be the best modes of overcoming them. Some delay being necessarily involved in the transference of my services to the Jeypore Durbar, and to the circumstance of my having been compelled to take six months' leave to the hills on medical certificate, it was not until October of last year that I assumed the superintendence of this school.

6. It was then, and indeed had been from its very origin, without any one who was capable of giving instruction, even the most rudimentary, in drawing of any sort, and my first care therefore was directed to the inauguration of drawing classes calculated to prepare the pupils for the different branches of industrial art, the practice of which they might subsequently have occasion to adopt as a means of subsistence.

7. From these classes I anticipate the greatest possible benefit to the school, and am convinced that the influence of that benefit will not be long in showing itself beyond its walls. Already some of the pupils have advanced in mechanical and free hand drawing to a very creditable degree, displaying in many instances an aptitude for this study with which I was myself hardly prepared to meet. Some of the geometrical figures, involving entire circles, or variously disposed

segments, have been executed by lads of 13 or 14 years of age, quite unaided by compasses, or any other mechanical assistance, with a precision and accuracy seldom found amongst skilled draughtsmen at home.

8. As these lads advance they will be variously instructed in mechanical, architectural, and ornamental drawing in practical geometry, perspective, and the projection of shadows, &c., as may be most needed for the special kind of work which they may have to perform, while those who exhibit the greatest aptitude in this direction will be educated in a manner fitting them hereafter for employment as mechanical draughtsmen, engravers, and ornamental decorators. As yet I cannot say that in this department we have gone much beyond the rudiments, but in well-founded prospects of rapid progress. I have put myself in communication with Mr. Locke, of the Calcutta School of Arts, who has promised me a useful supply of casts and models suitable for more advanced study.

9. The industrial branches of the school are ten in number, and are enumerated in the subjoined Table, to which has been added the number of workmen and apprentices employed in each department:—

| | | | | Workmen. | Apprentices. |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|--|----------|--------------|
| 1. Blacksmith's work | ... | ... | | 3 | 6 |
| 2. Carpentry and Joinery | ... | ... | | 2 | 8 |
| 3. Wood carving | ... | ... | | 2 | 19 |
| 4. Stone carving | ... | ... | | 2 | 4 |
| 5. Turning | ... | ... | | 1 | 3 |
| 6. Engraving and Jewellery | ... | ... | | 1 | 8 |
| 7. Pottery | ... | ... | | 1 | 21 |
| 8. Book-binding | ... | ... | | 1 | 3 |
| 9. Practical and Analytical Chemistry | ... | | | 1 | 4 |
| 10. Lithography | ... | ... | | 2 | 3 |
| | | | | 16 | 79 |

10. While the school is still in comparative infancy, and until its advantages come to be fully appreciated by the inhabitants of this city, it has been found necessary to attract pupils by awarding them wages in proportion to the amount of skill they acquire. At first lads are entertained as probationers for two months on no pay at all. If they are industrious and well-behaved, they are admitted into the first class

of apprentices at rupee one per mensem. As they advance they rise into the second, third, fourth, and fifth classes, each advancement adding rupee one to their monthly salary. Such an arrangement has only been adopted until the inhabitants learn to value the educational advantages of this school sufficiently to induce them to send their children to it without any condition of remuneration. How soon this object may be attained it is of course impossible to say, but it is one at which we aim, and to which my labours are steadily directed.

1.—*Blacksmith's work.*

11. The Superintendent of this department is a skilled workman from the Madras School, who also acts as foreman. There are six apprentices, two of which have advanced sufficiently to produce very creditable work.

2.—*Carpentry and Joinery.*

Of the eight apprentices in this department, three have already acquired sufficient skill to make their labour useful in the manufacture of various articles of furniture, &c., and they give decided promise of becoming clever artizans with a theoretical as well as practical knowledge of their craft above the average run of workmen in this country.

3.—*Wood carving.*

Two thoroughly skilled carvers from Saharunpore have been entertained for instruction in this department. Some of their work in wood, ivory, and inlaying, leaves nothing to be desired in the way of neatness and delicacy of workmanship. Two of their apprentices have already made marked progress under their tuition.

4.—*Stone Carving.*

This department has only recently been introduced. Jeypore is famous for its carved work in marble and other stones, the execution of which is in every way admirable; but it is mostly confined to a limited number of conventional designs, which, though often very good in themselves, weary one by tedious repetition. The course of tuition, therefore, in this department, will be more directed towards instruction in practical geometry and the principles of ornamental design than to improvement in actual workmanship, already very excellent.

5.—*Turning.*

The workmen and apprentices in this department are instructed in the use of the lathe as adopted in European workshops, and learn both plain and ornamental turning in various materials. The school has recently been enriched by the addition of a beautiful English lathe capable of producing every description of ornamental and excentric turning, and of a fret and block-letter cutting machine.

6.—*Engraving and Jewellery.*

A workman of unusual skill presides over this department, but the labours of his apprentices are as yet only confined to geometrical

drawing, calculated to adapt them to the execution of work requiring as much accuracy and delicacy of touch as that which hereafter they will be called upon to perform.

7.—*Pottery.*

The very fine Kaolin found in the vicinity of Jeypore raises the hope that in this department the school will be able to produce very useful results. A potter from the Madras School has been entertained for this work, and some of the articles moulded and baked in the form of biscuit China are very creditable. Hitherto no glazed ware has been produced, but arrangements are now in progress for securing satisfactory work of this nature. I am, indeed, sanguine enough to believe that Jeypore will soon be able to produce as good China and stone-ware as any made in India.

8.—*Book-binding.*

This useful branch of industry is practised with great success, and the establishment is burdened with work in quantity almost beyond its ability to undertake.

9.—*Practical and Analytical Chemistry.*

This department has only just been established. Its utility in connection with an institution like this is obvious, since beyond its own operations it will form the basis for the future introduction of such branches of industry as electro-plating, photography in its various branches, dyeing, &c., &c.

10.—*Lithography.*

This likewise is a department introduced but within the last few days, as it has been brought into existence only by the satisfactory progress of some of the members of the drawing classes.

12. In addition to the industrial departments above enumerated, there are others which it is my intention to establish as speedily as possible, *viz.*, brass and bronze founding, photography, electro-plating, gilding, and wood engraving.

13. I have done nothing more than supply a brief sketch of the present condition of this school. Where so much still remains under organization, it seemed to me hardly possible to do more. I cannot, however, close this Report without the expression of my conviction that this institution is likely to be the means of doing an immense amount of good in Jeypore. The establishment of such schools all over India cannot, I think, be too warmly supported. By combining scientific and intellectual progress with proficiency in manual skill, they are much more calculated, in my opinion, to raise the social and moral condition of the natives of this country than institutions which only regard intellectual acquirements and refinements. The natives of India have quite as wonderful an aptitude for the acquisition of manual dexterity as they have for the appropriation of abstract learning; and if the history of European nations shows, as undoubtedly it does, that they owe their advancement to the combined and simultaneous progress of head-work with hand-work, it is reasonable to conclude that the same conditions would produce similar results in this country; and where so much of the intellectual

element is supplied by the governing race and so much of the labouring element needed from the dependent one, it surely seems desirable to secure, as far as possible, every means that may give to the latter all the manual proficiency of which they are capable.

14. It will be perceived that the work carried on in this school is of a variety and extent seldom attempted in similar institutions. How far it is desirable or otherwise that it should be so, I do not as yet feel myself competent to determine. I can only say that it is the wish of the Maharaja to extend the usefulness of this school over as wide a sphere as possible, and, as far as I am able, I am anxious to carry out this wish. To do so satisfactorily, however, I have been compelled to apply to the Durbar for a European Assistant, since it is impossible for me single-handed to maintain a theoretical as well as practical knowledge of so many various departments of industry, and at the same time devote that amount of care and labour to individual tuition which I should like to be able to do.

15. Moreover, as there is no one in this school sufficiently advanced to be entrusted with the execution of the many designs continually required, this work falls entirely upon myself, and thus I am burdened with labour and responsibility beyond my powers to struggle with successfully. That under such circumstances progress should be slow cannot be surprising. I have little doubt, however, that the liberality of the Maharaja and his evident interest in the success of this institution will induce him to sanction the appointment of a well-qualified Assistant from some of the best schools at home.

(Sd.) F. W. A. DEFABECK,
Principal, School of Arts, Jeypore.

I.

Meteorological Return for the year 1869.

| | RAIN-FALL IN INCHES. | | | | AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IN THE SHADE. | | | | | | | | | | | | PREVAILING WINDS. | | | REMARKS. |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--|--|----------|
| | January to May. | June to September. | October to December. | Total. | May. | | | July. | | | December. | | | January to May. | June to September. | October to December. | | | | |
| | | | | | Sunrise. | 2 P. M. | Sunset. | Sunrise. | 2 P. M. | Sunset. | Sunrise. | 2 P. M. | Sunset. | | | | | | | |
| City Dispensary | | | | | 97°9 | 100°3 | 98°5 | 90°0 | 93°3 | 92°2 | 65°5 | 67°48 | 66°07 | West. | West. | West. | | | | |
| Agency Surgeon's Residency | 1°08 | 15°48 | °48 | 17°69 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 1°08 | 15°48 | °48 | 17°69 | 97°9 | 100°3 | 98°5 | 90°0 | 93°3 | 92°2 | 65°5 | 67°48 | 66°07 | West. | West. | West. | | | | |

(Sd.) K. BURN, M.D.,
 Suptd. of Raj Dispensaries
 and Vaccination, Jeypore.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the letter and banghy postage collected at the several Post Offices in the Jeypore Division during the years of 1868-69 and 1869-70.

| Names of Post Offices. | BANGHY POSTAGE. | | | | LETTER POSTAGE. | | | | REMARKS. |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| | 1868-69. | | 1869-70. | | Increase. | | Decrease. | | |
| | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | |
| Jeypore .. | 5,128 5 0 | 3,780 0 0 | | 1,348 5 0 | 8,842 2 10 | 9,198 0 2 | 356 3 4 | | Including Hindown and Kerowlee. |
| Uluur .. | 143 8 0 | 244 12 0 | 101 4 0 | | 1,089 10 0 | 2,237 4 8 | 267 10 8 | | |
| Mohwa .. | 117 9 0 | 115 0 0 | | 2 0 0 | 2,031 10 9 | 1,900 0 0 | | 131 10 9 | |
| Tonk ... | 248 12 8 | 348 6 0 | 104 9 4 | | 2,199 5 0 | 2,188 9 6 | | 10 11 6 | |
| Kotpootlee... | 4 0 0 | 5 8 0 | 1 8 0 | | 303 2 0 | 388 5 0 | 29 3 0 | | |
| Khetree .. | 55 1 0 | 21 8 0 | | 33 0 0 | 606 10 6 | 593 12 0 | | 12 14 0 | |
| Ajnere .. | 1,116 5 0 | 1,082 6 0 | | 32 15 0 | 5,685 14 2 | 5,083 3 2 | | 597 11 0 | |
| Rangurh .. | 883 4 0 | 478 13 0 | | 404 7 0 | 1,399 7 6 | 1,328 9 6 | | 70 14 0 | |
| Futtelepore | 326 0 0 | 182 8 0 | | 143 8 0 | 745 9 6 | 684 2 0 | | 61 7 6 | |
| Jhoonjuoo .. | 40 8 0 | 51 12 0 | 11 4 0 | | 619 12 0 | 730 5 0 | 80 9 0 | | |
| Soorajgurh .. | 19 0 0 | 36 5 0 | 17 5 0 | | 465 4 6 | 461 2 0 | | 4 2 6 | |
| Koochamun .. | 173 9 0 | 115 14 0 | | 57 11 0 | 1,136 4 0 | 918 7 0 | | 217 13 0 | |
| Seekur ... | 346 9 0 | 224 8 0 | | 122 0 0 | 1,092 10 0 | 1,034 1 0 | | 58 9 0 | |
| Soojangurh .. | 346 4 0 | 33 11 0 | 312 15 0 | | 482 12 6 | 783 15 0 | 303 3 0 | | |
| Kishengurh .. | 54 12 0 | 54 4 0 | | 0 8 0 | 266 5 0 | 672 13 7 | 466 8 7 | | |

(Sd.) OODEYLALL,
Inspecting Post-master, Jeypore Division.

K.

STATEMENT showing the working of the Jeypore Court of Vakeels for the year 1869.

| DETAIL. | No. | REMARKS. |
|---|-----|--|
| Under trial, 1st January 1869... | 49 | { The average duration of the suits was 5 months and 16 days. |
| Instituted during the year ... | 103 | |
| Total ... | 151 | { The total amount of decrees given was Rupees 45,760-9-9 against Rupees 1,05,917-4-3, the aggregate amount sued for, or about per cent. |
| Settled during the year ... | 129 | |
| Remaining unsettled, 31st December 1869 ... | 22 | { There were during the year 13 cases of appeal, three of which have been thrown out, two admitted, and eight not disposed of. |
| | | { In ten cases adjudicated during the year 27 persons have been sentenced: the crimes were principally dacoitee and highway robbery. |
| | | { The term of imprisonment, viz., two for life, and 25 ranging from 12 months to 7 years. |

JEYPORE,
The 1st May 1870. }

(Sd.)

E. R. C. BRADFORD, Capt.,
Offg. Poltl. Agent, Jeypore.

L.

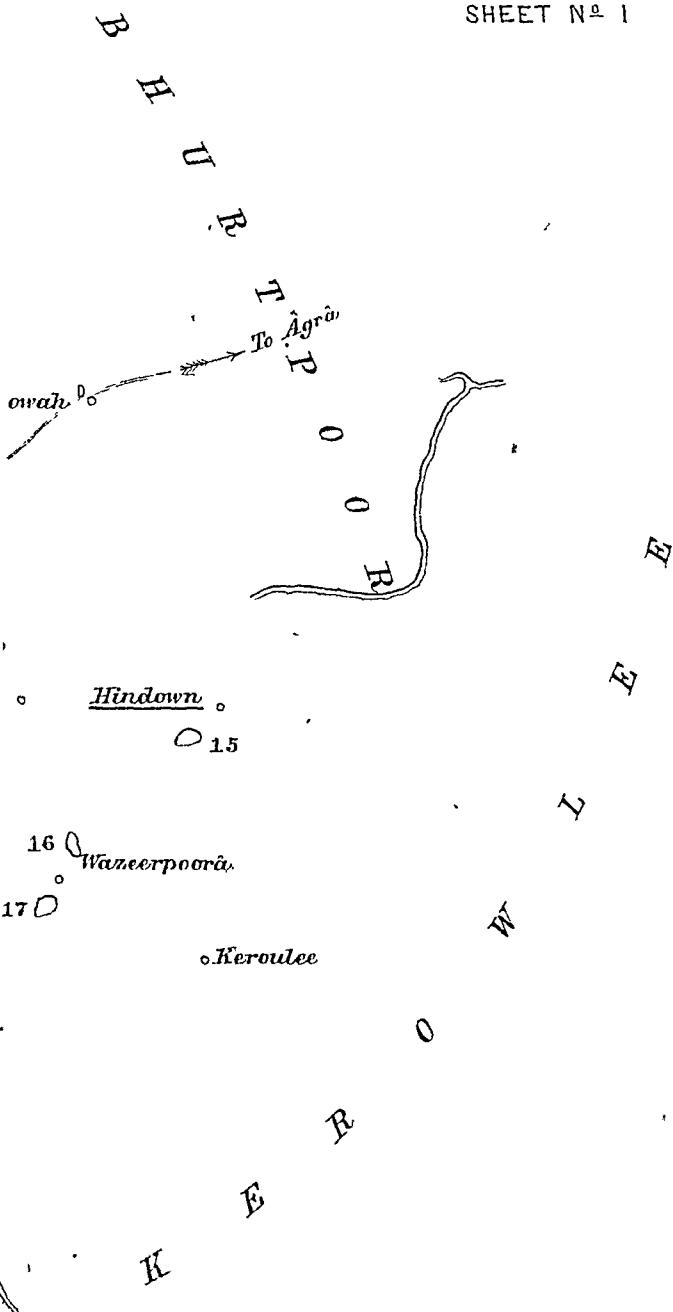
ABSTRACT STATEMENT of the number and nature of the cases adjudicated by the Jeypore International Court of Vakeels during the year 1869.

| NATURE OF CASES. | No. | REMARKS. |
|---|-----|----------|
| <i>Against Person.</i> | | |
| Murder ... | 3 | |
| Assault with wounding ... | 1 | |
| Total ... | 4 | |
| <i>Against Property.</i> | | |
| Highway robbery with aggravated circumstances ... | 3 | |
| Ditto without ditto ... | 40 | |
| Gang robbery with aggravated circumstances ... | 1 | |
| Theft with aggravated circumstances ... | 1 | |
| Do. without ditto ... | 39 | |
| Cattle-lifting ... | 24 | |
| Arson ... | 2 | |
| Burglary ... | 1 | |
| Counterfeit coining ... | 1 | |
| Miscellaneous ... | 22 | |
| Total ... | 125 | |
| Grand total ... | 129 | |

JEYPORE,
The 1st May 1870. }

(Sd.)

E. R. C. BRADFORD, Capt.,
Offg. Poltl. Agent, Jeypore.



MARWAR AGENCY REPORT.

No. 56-17P., dated 16th May 1870.

From—COLONEL J. C. BROOKE, Officiating Political Agent, Marwar and Jeysulmere.

To—COL. R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Agent, Govr.-Genl., Rajpootana.

I HAVE the honor to submit my Annual Report on the administration of the Marwar State for the year 1869-70.

The Famine.

2. The Report of 1868-69 brought down the account of the great famine, from which Marwar was suffering, to the month of May 1869. The agricultural population, who had emigrated, were in eager expectation that a bountiful Providence would open the flood gates of heaven in due season, and bless the land with a teeming harvest. This expectation, however, was not fulfilled. An intercalary month (in April-May) having been added to the Calendar by the Hindoo astrologers, the emigrants anticipated that the rain would commence in the very beginning of the month of Asar, corresponding last year with the end of May; consequently, they commenced to return to their homes at that time with their families and cattle, with the view of being in readiness for the early khureef sowings. They found in Marwar nought but arid and burnt-up plains, without a blade of grass for their cattle and without water in the wells. The hot winds raged wildly; the dust, whirled aloft in furious storms, was suffocating: no sign of a cloud was to be seen. Down-hearted, a second time they rushed away from the doomed land. Cholera broke out amongst them; and whilst enfeebled in body by want of food and broken in spirit through misfortune, they fell an easy prey to the attacks of the fell malady. At each place where they halted many lay down and died. The roadsides and the banks of rivers and tanks formed generally their last resting-places, but their skeletons were everywhere scattered over the country, and for months afterwards were met with in the most out-of-the-way places.

3. In the neighbouring countries the rainy season set in about the middle of June. Reports reached the emigrants that the monsoons had commenced in Marwar. A second rush to their villages was followed by a renewed disappointment. The hot furnace blast still scathed the heated plain, and the poor wanderers had to undergo a repetition of their former miseries, much aggravated, however, by their more wretched condition. Famine and cholera had not left them; and, however kindly treated in the countries in which they had sought a temporary refuge, no one was now willing to receive them. They had conveyed cholera from Mullanee into Scinde after their first attempt to return to their homes. After their second attempt, the desert people, alarmed, would not allow them to cross the border, though those who had remained in Scinde were treated by Lieutenant-Colonel Tyrwhitt with great kindness, which is gratefully remembered by them. Towards Jeysulmere, also,

those who returned to that city after the first false report were not admitted, but received food at a Suddhabhurt established outside the walls, and, as they too had cholera amongst them, were required to pass on. Many died miserably in the desert, trying to reach Khyrpoor, whilst others wandered about till they could return to Marwar. Fortunately the rains had commenced very early in Jeysulmere, and were unusually copious, so that the hearts of the people were opened, and they found sympathy and support.

4. Thousands of emigrants died in the countries to which they had gone: the same sad tale of their pitiable condition was received from every direction. Refuges at Neemuch, at Ajmere, and at Erinpoora, offered noble examples of the charitable exertions of the residents at those stations. At Jodhpore and at Palee large sums were liberally distributed amongst the starving by the native bankers; but the relief given only prolonged existence for a few days. Those that were famine-stricken were doomed, and but a small percentage recovered. To show the dreadful condition to which the emigrants to other countries were reduced, I may mention that the mortality amongst a body of 3,000, who had arrived together at Pahlunpore from Guzerat, was at the rate of 40 daily for several days together, till only a few were left. The diminution in numbers was not so palpable to the senses, because daily arrivals counterbalanced the casualties. The average mortality at any place through which a stream of emigrants passed may be taken at the rate of from 8 to 10 per cent. per diem. At Pahlunpore, at Oodeypore, as elsewhere, relief was applied, but careful nursing was required as much as food, and this could not be given, except in exceptional cases, as at Erinpoora, where four hundred children were thus saved. The distress was so wide-spread, that even partial relief could reach but a few of such as needed it.

5. Those who remained at their homes, however, were in a much worse plight than those who had emigrated. The latter were able to procure food by purchase or by charity, but the former, in country villages, away from large towns, could obtain none whatever; and numbers, with means of purchasing, perished from starvation. Even at Jodhpore and Palee, for days together, no grain was to be had, notwithstanding the numerous convoys which reached those places; and many respectable and well-to-do people were reduced to great extremities.

6. The increase of distress during the famine is shown by the ruling prices of wheat in the Jodhpore Bazar, commencing from July 1868, when famine was not anticipated. The lowest price quoted during the period was $3\frac{3}{4}$ seers per rupee, but the stocks were so completely exhausted, that the rates during June, July, August, and September 1869, were quite nominal. Those who were obliged to buy had to purchase at exorbitant prices far above the quoted rates.

Price of wheat at Jodhpore during famine of 1868 and 1869.

| Months. | | | British seers per Rupee. | Months. | | | British seers per Rupee. |
|-----------|------|-----|-----------------------------|-----------|------|-----|-----------------------------|
| | | | Srs. ch. | | | | Srs. ch. |
| July | 1868 | ... | 14 8 | June | 1869 | ... | 5 8 |
| August | " | ... | 12 0 | July | " | ... | 5 0 |
| September | " | ... | 8 12 | August | " | ... | 4 12 |
| October | " | ... | 6 10 | September | " | ... | 4 9 |
| November | " | ... | 6 0 | October | " | ... | 5 10 |
| December | " | ... | 6 12 | November | " | ... | 5 10 |
| January | 1869 | ... | 6 10 | December | " | ... | 6 0 |
| February | " | ... | 6 8 | January | 1870 | ... | 6 8 |
| March | " | ... | 6 8 | February | " | ... | 6 8 |
| April | " | ... | 6 0 | March | " | ... | 6 12 |
| May | " | ... | 5 8 | April | " | ... | 7 0 |
| | | | | 1st May | " | ... | 8 8 |

7. On the 19th July the rains at last set in, but in many places too lightly to moisten the earth sufficiently for agricultural operations. At Jodhpore itself none fell till September 9th. Towards the end of July the falls became more general in the country, and the spirit of the people revived. They had lost their cattle, and had no plough bullocks; therefore, making small ploughs expressly for the purpose, they yoked themselves in place of their oxen, whilst the women dropped in the grain as the men laboriously turned the furrow. Only one ploughing to the soil was given by these poor half-starved people; and then thorns in place of harrows were dragged over the furrows to scratch the earth over the grain. So precious were camels and bullocks at this time, that in Mullanee Rupees 3 a day was the rate of hire for a camel ploughing, and Rupees 4 a day for a pair of bullocks. Thus energetically did the Marwar population try and retrieve the dire visitation which had fallen on them.

8. With all these great exertions, they managed to sow a breadth of land almost equal to half the usual quantity, a result most astonishing when the slender means at their disposal and their reduced state is considered. The grain sprouted splendidly, and all were in hopes that the famine had at last passed away; and that with the harvest would be ushered in a season of plenty and contentment, when another scourge was sent on the already afflicted country. Dense broad streams, several inches deep, of dusky-coloured insects, like minute grasshoppers about the size of ants, made their appearance. They were produced from the eggs of swarms of locusts, which had entered the country about the end of May from the direction of Jeysulmere, and had settled in various localities, each of 20 or 30 square miles in extent. They moved backwards and forwards steadily over the face of the land, regardless of all obstructions, and destroyed every green thing in their course. As they increased in size, they became more ravenous in their appetites, and, when they got their wings and could fly, more ubiquitous. Great clouds of them were daily seen seeking what new spot they could find which had not been previously devastated by other flights. They took their daily flight as the sun became warm.

In the afternoon they settled on fields of ripe grain to allay their insatiable hunger, and changed the colour of the green land for many square miles to their own pinkish hue. When the morning arrived they took their flight, and left the place where they had settled bare earth and skeleton trees. They disappeared about the end of October, when the public prints mentioned that the Steamer *Euphrates* had sailed for three days between Aden and Bombay through swarms of them. In September I calculated the injury to the crops in Marwar by locusts at 50 per cent. of the produce. The swarms had then only just commenced to fly; but before they finally left the country 75 per cent. of the crops over the small area sown was lost to Marwar. Another famine season stared the people in the face, and numbers were again compelled to emigrate.

9. The real period of intense suffering from want of food had, however, passed. In 1868 the wild grasses had afforded no food, as there had been no rain; but in 1869 the grass crop was most luxuriant, whilst there were no cattle to trample it down. One of these grasses, the Bhoorut (*Achyranthus aspera*), yielded in 1869 a large quantity of seed, which only required collecting to give the people a wholesome and plentiful diet. It was as valuable in Marwar as was the mauna of old to the Israelites in the wilderness. The Bhoorut has a very small grain, and is difficult to extract from its prickly husk, but it makes a nutritious and palatable bread, and sells in the bazar at the same rate as bajra, from which, when cooked, it can scarcely be distinguished. Large supplies of this seed have been laid in, sometimes sufficient for a year's consumption, not only by the poorer classes and by cultivators, but even by Thakoors, who have contented themselves with Bhoorut, whilst their ryots have been supplied with bajra to prevent them from emigrating. Had I space I would dilate on the relief bestowed by Thakoors and other landholders who advanced grain purchased either with their own or with borrowed money for the preservation of their ryots; and, though their motives were not disinterested, saved many villages and lives. Nothing could more convincingly show the advantage of a landed aristocracy to a country than the conduct of the Marwar Thakoors during this great calamity.

10. It is to be hoped that the tide of misfortune has now turned. Though the rubbee crops of 1869-70 were sown very late, in consequence of the prostration of the people by fever and the absence of cattle, and though want of population restricted the cultivation of wheat and barley to about half the usual amount, yet the produce has been excellent. The rains in March last were of great benefit to the country. The price of wheat at Jodhpore has fallen to nine seers per rupee, and a further fall is anticipated. It is to be hoped that the present rubbee harvest may mark the commencement of a cycle of favourable seasons.

11. It has been before remarked that no rain fell at Jodhpore till September 9th. Situated on the line, where the flat and fertile plains of Marwar change to sandy desert, Jodhpore, according to the late Colonel Malcolm, who was Political Agent for several years, has an annual rain-fall of not more than four inches. The inhabitants obtain their supply of water for domestic purposes partly from a few very

deep wells outside the city, but chiefly from what falls on the rocky plateaux around, which is conducted by aqueducts into large reservoirs in the city. In 1868 not a drop of water entered these reservoirs; and during the rains of 1869 only two falls occurred, each of about an hour's duration, and both within 24 hours of one another. The water supply of Jodhpore, which contains a population of about 100,000 souls, is a question of great difficulty. The numerical paucity of the wells and their great depth make the drawing of a sufficiency a most laborious undertaking to the women. With the mass bathing is out of the question. As in the desert, a sand bath suffices.

12. The devastation caused by the locusts and the destruction of a second year's harvest was followed by yet another visitation, which, though not so dreaded, was far more destructive to human life than either the cholera or starvation. On the cessation of the rains a terrible fever struck down the entire population. It so prostrated the people, that grain, spared by locusts, could with difficulty be housed; and advantage could not be taken of the favourable season to sow the rubbee harvest in good time. All the weak and sickly, the old men and half-starved children, debilitated by famine, were early carried off. The strong and well-to-do only remained. In some cases half the population died of fever. This was the case especially along the banks of rivers, whilst the inland deserts enjoyed a comparative immunity from the scourge; but as the bulk of the population live in the most fertile lands, which are along the course of streams, the deaths by fever alone may be put down at 20 per cent. of the entire population.

13. At the close of the rains it appeared desirable to take a census of the population of Mullanee, with a view of placing on record statistics on which to enable Captain Impey to base measures for obtaining from the district sufficient revenue to pay for its administration, and to procure information of the loss sustained by Mullanee by the famine, though it was throughout far healthier than Marwar. Relief works gave employment to the poor, whilst grain flowed into it in an uninterrupted stream from Scinde, and though allowance must be made for these favourable circumstances, yet, if we apply the Returns so procured approximately to the rest of the country, we shall obtain the *minimum* loss of life for the whole of Marwar. The census of 81 villages has been completed, showing the number of houses, the names and occupations of each resident, the population before the famine, the number of deaths caused by cholera and fever during the year, the diminution by emigration, and the number now left.

ABSTRACT of Census of 81 villages in the Mullanee District for 1870, showing the effects of the famine of 1868 and 1869.

| No. | PLACES. | Number of inhabitants before famine. | NUMBER THAT EMIGRATED AND DIED. | | | | Present number of population. |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | | Loss by emigration and natural deaths. | Deaths by cholera. | Deaths by fever. | Total loss by famine. | |
| 1 | Balmeer | 5,047 | 190 | 115 | 111 | 416 | 4,631 |
| 31 | Villages of ditto | 13,623 | 1,514 | 243 | 481 | 2,235 | 11,498 |
| 1 | Bissallah | 2,012 | 180 | | 118 | 298 | 1,714 |
| 11 | Villages of ditto | 3,722 | 460 | 24 | 177 | 761 | 3,061 |
| 1 | Sindree | 4,730 | 1,197 | 118 | 519 | 1,834 | 2,896 |
| 36 | Villages of ditto | 13,883 | 3,048 | 305 | 910 | 4,263 | 9,620 |
| 81 | Grand Total | 43,017 | 6,589 | 805 | 2,316 | 9,807 | 33,420 |

14. The loss in the 81 villages during the year has been one-fourth of the population; the number remaining alive being 33,320, whereas before the famine it was 43,017. The difference between the loss by fever in the interior desert villages of Balmeer and Bissallah, and by the same disease at Sindree, which is on the banks of the Loonee River, though in sandy soil, is very marked. In the former the deaths by fever were only one-fortieth of the population, whilst in the latter they were one-sixth. The total mortality in Mullanee was, however, considerably less than in the richer districts of Marwar, where the loss may be stated at one-third of the population. If we take, however, the same ratio which the Returns for Mullanee exhibit, the *minimum* decrease of the population will be from 1,500,000 to 1,125,000, exhibiting a loss, at the very lowest estimate, of 373,000 souls, caused by the famine in Marwar alone.

15. The mortality amongst the Marwar cattle was estimated in my last year's Report at 75 per cent. of the whole; but this estimate was too low. Certainly not more than 15 per cent. have been saved, and as the estimated number previous to the famine was 2,250,000, this would give a loss of nearly 2,000,000 of cattle, leaving only 375,000 remaining. The number of cattle for sale at the great fair of Tulwara in Mullanee in March 1868, just before the famine, compared with the number offered this year in March 1870, will show the diminution in the stock.

Cattle offered for sale at the Tulwara Fair in A.D. 1868 and A.D. 1870.

| DESCRIPTION. | | | A.D. 1868. | A.D. 1870. |
|--------------|-----|-----|------------|---|
| Horses | ... | ... | 2,258 | 600 |
| Camels | ... | ... | 33,235 | 2,000 |
| Bullocks | ... | ... | 76,369 | 12,000 (many of these from Scinde.) |
| Donkeys | ... | ... | 1,200 | |

It should be recollected that in 1868 the cattle offered for sale were unbroken cattle, the superfluous increase by breeding. In 1870 it consisted chiefly of the precious broken-in stock of families, driven to sell them to purchase food. The present poverty of the people may be comprehended by the fact that, notwithstanding the great demand for cattle, only 150 horses and 2,800 bullocks found purchasers at the fair at prices 25 per cent. below the rates which the same animals would have fetched before the famine. This formerly rich country is now poverty-stricken.

Its herds are gone. The vast plains where the cattle used to graze are deserted; the grass untrodden and uncut. Animal life appears to have been temporarily extinguished. A bird is rarely seen or heard. The countless herds of antelopes have disappeared; dogs, foxes, and jackals are dead. Even the field rats have been starved out, and insect life has notably diminished. The stillness of death is felt everywhere.

Revenues of Marwar.

16. The revenues of Marwar, as might have been expected, have suffered considerably from the famine. It is difficult to procure any trustworthy account of their usual amount, but the Crown revenue may be estimated at about the following :—

| | | | |
|--|--------|-----|-----------|
| Land revenue after deducting resumptptions by Nobles | ... | Rs. | 7,00,000 |
| Assessed taxes | | .. | 2,50,000 |
| Salt | | .. | 7,50,000 |
| Customs | | .. | 5,00,000 |
| Police and Judicial | | .. | 1,00,000 |
| Rekhs (8 per cent. on Thakoor's estate) | | .. | 2,80,000 |
| Miscellaneous, including Hookumnamah, interests, fines, Hustey-Khuruch, &c. | | .. | 5,00,000 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Total | ... | Rs. | 30,80,000 |

or, say, from 30 to 32 lakhs of rupees. During the last two years, however, there has been a deficiency of about 10 lakhs per annum. During the coming year the revenue ought to recover half the yearly deficiency, but it will take four or five years to reach its former amount.

Expenditure of Marwar.

17. No account can be given of the expenditure of the State. In its normal condition it should not exceed 20 to 22 lakhs of rupees, but there is so much misappropriation, so much speculation and fraud, that a difficulty about the ways and means invariably arises long before the year has expired. The troops and establishments were paid last year; they are again much in arrears. The revenue which should have paid them has been either squandered in extravagance or put by to swell the royal hoard. Their pay will be defrayed when they are on the point of mutinying for it.

Marwar Government and Officials.

18. During the past year the Government of Marwar has undergone little alteration. The same disregard to whatever is passing beyond its own narrow sphere distinguishes it now, as before. Whatever can be obtained from the country in the shape of revenue by legitimate cesses or illegitimate exactions is greedily seized by its officials; but neither justice nor protection to the property of its subjects in return is deemed requisite. The parties at Court, in the eager search after power, intrigue and wrangle amongst themselves, regardless of the interests of the State or their own characters, and the absence of any efficient control has fostered a lax morality amongst all classes of *employés* most prejudicial to the welfare of the country.

Late Minister.

19. Joshee Hunsraj was the first Minister appointed by the Maharaja under the Agreement entered into by His Highness in January 1869. The Maharaja did not, however, give the Minister the support he had looked for; and as the Joshee was a man of an unconciliatory disposition, of a violent temper, and careless of popularity, he was soon at open feud with those about the Maharaja's person and with the favourites of the zenana, who exercise so prejudicial an influence over the affairs of the State. One of the articles of the Agreement under which the Joshee had been appointed required that the Crown villages should not be managed by zenana favourites, but by the Minister. As most of these were then under eunuchs, their surrender to the Minister was made with great reluctance by the Maharaja. The zenana faction were exasperated, and ascribed all the ills of the country to the Minister, who, meeting with no proper support, resigned his appointment.

Appointment of New Minister.

20. A considerable time elapsed before the Maharaja appointed a successor to the Joshee. The most influential and the most popular individual for the post was undoubtedly Bijjey Singh, but as he was on friendly terms with the principal Thakoors, and one of the unfortunate peculiarities of the Maharaja is to settle no question by conciliation, so neither would he, by appointing Bijjey Singh, whom in his wise moments he felt to be the proper person for the post, give a chance for the establishment of a better feeling between himself and his feudatories. The most respectable people about his person and those of highest rank in the zenana were anxious for the appointment of Bijjey Singh; and the Maharaja was on the point of yielding to their solicitations, and had actually summoned Bijjey Singh to his presence, when the other party in the zenana who labour to keep the Maharaja under their sole guidance, and, consequently, at variance with every one else, brought forward as a candidate for the appointment of Minister Murdan Ali Khan, who promised His Highness that he would carry on the affairs of the State in implicit obedience to his wishes.

21. My own opinion, which I expressed to the Maharaja, was that in a country in which not only the executive administration was disorganized by misrule, but its social condition upset by a terrible famine, a Minister was required who should be known to, and trusted by, the country, and who would unite the disordered elements and inspire confidence in the minds of the well-disposed in the country, which required rest after the sufferings it had gone through. At no time has a foreigner much chance of success in Marwar, where the language itself differs from that of the rest of India, but in a contingency like the present, it was more than ever impolitic. There was no chance of the Marwar officials pulling with an outsider, and it was opening a still deeper gulf between the Maharaja and his subjects. My advice, however, was unheeded, the Maharaja being bent on the appointment and, having obtained your consent, made it.

Conduct of new Minister.

22. For some time the Minister's appointment was nominal, and little power was confided to him, but gradually he managed to obtain an

uncertain control over the various departments in the State, and in the same ratio as he gained power did his unpopularity increase. As all were on the alert to find fault with his acts, he was very careful in his conduct, and he brought some restraint to bear on those who were living on the plunder of the State. I do not mean to ascribe any peculiar honesty to Murdan Ali Khan, but it was his policy to secure the confidence of the Maharaja, and as he is a man of undoubted ability, he accomplished his object. Having secured his position for the time, he commenced interference with the finances of the State, which brought him into collision with the old servants whom he found in office. The latter resented it, and, as they had influential friends amongst the zenana and those in immediate attendance on the Maharaja, they misrepresented the Minister's intentions and got his orders upset, so that before long he found a difficulty in obtaining obedience to his simplest commands, which were laughed at in the street outside his house.

Influx of foreigners.

23. To remedy this the Minister sent for a number of Musselmen from our North-West Provinces with a view to swamp the Native officials of the country. Large numbers have been for some time arriving at Jodhpore, and the old servants of the State, natives of the country, are being displaced, even from the most minor offices, so as to make way for these men. It does not signify whether they have served the State faithfully or otherwise, or for a long or short period. Good and bad are alike displaced. Unpalatable changes are made in every department, while the real work is neglected, and a feeling of distrust and irritation is universal.

Discontent.

24. The Maharaja is aware of the discontent which prevails against this policy of his Minister; but instead of seeking to lessen the mischief, he regards all who are opposed to it as his personal enemies and as rebels. He upbraids in no mild language those who approach him for their unfaithfulness, and bitterly complains that he is left without a friend in the State: as he expresses it, "even the very clothes he wears are his enemies." The Minister himself feels his unpopularity to such a degree, that he is evidently apprehensive of the result, and surrounds himself closely with guards, so as to almost exclude himself from the public.

Probable result.

25. Murdan Ali Khan has not yet shown any qualities of a good administrator. His conduct in the matter of the officials is a sufficient proof of this. With a suspicious master he is in a difficult position. He is afraid to bring to the Maharaja's notice questions which involve expenditure, lest the vials of wrath might be opened upon himself and bring him into disfavour. These are, therefore, kept in the background, and the most necessary and pressing measures for the government of the country, such as the Minister knows and is anxious enough to carry out, are indefinitely postponed; for as soon as the Minister calls upon the Maharaja for money, from that minute he will fall into disgrace. The time is passed in pleasures and shows, and day succeeds day of the same resultless trifling. Whatever revenue comes in is appropriated either by

the Minister, who is extravagant for his own expenses, or by the Maharaja to add to his hoard. The current expenses of the State are uncared for and in arrears. The troops, establishments, and workpeople are all calling out for pay, and will eventually make themselves heard; whilst the numbers of new men who have come from our provinces for service in Marwar are not likely to be so long suffering in the matter of their allowances as the Marwarees.

Titles given to new Minister.

26. The Maharaja has hitherto given Murdan Ali Khan greater support in all cases in which zenana influence has not been brought to bear than could have been expected. He has lived for a considerable time in the house occupied by the Minister, and he has been persuaded into conferring on him the rank of "Nawab," with high-sounding titles of honor affixed. This proceeding has cast ridicule on such titles, but sufficiently exhibits the influence the Minister possesses over his master.

Non-fulfilment of agreement by Maharaja.

27. The agreement which was entered into by the Maharaja for the better administration of his country has not been abided by. A strict adherence to it would have required a stronger will than is possessed by the Maharaja, especially where radical changes in the Government were involved. The custom of ruling through more than a single Minister was foreign to Jodhpore ideas; besides which, the Ministry was formed of discordant materials, and could not have worked together. The Maharaja was of too jealous and suspicious a temperament to allow real authority to any of his servants, and the Minister was still obliged to consult him on the most trivial questions. Only 10½ lakhs of rupees of the 15 lakhs promised was ever made over to the Minister, so that the action of the Government remained crippled for want of funds. As the Maharaja remained generally in the inner apartments, messages passed to and fro, and orders were issued as before, through the eunuchs. The Minister managed to get charge of the villages held by the eunuchs, but he could not obtain the more valuable ones made over to the favourite concubine and set apart for the privy purse, which is still maintained. The State accounts were not separated from the Maharaja's personal expenditure, nor were the various banking houses abolished which had been established by the Maharaja with the object of lending money to the Jaghiredars and others. In fact, the Maharaja cannot bring himself, and never will be able, to separate himself from the current work of the country which he has ruled so long, nor delegate an iota of his authority, notwithstanding that he has signed an agreement to do so.

Dispute between Maharaja and heir apparent.

28. The dispute between the Maharaja and his eldest son has been again brought prominently forward during the year. The heir apparent was granted the Pergunnah of Godwar in part payment of the Rupees 1,00,000 a year which it was arranged he was to receive for his maintenance. Any surplus revenue beyond the sum at which the pergunnah was estimated was to be repaid to the Maharaja, and any deficiency in collections was to be made good to the son. There was a considerable deficiency caused by the famine, and there were other expenses incidental

to the charge of a pergunnah which required a yearly settlement of accounts. The heir apparent proceeded to Jodhpore for the purpose of arranging these, and though a sum of about Rupees 80,000 was due to him, payment was put off from day to day, notwithstanding that the young man had been thrown into great pecuniary difficulties by having had to defray expenses which ought to have been paid by the Raj. It was only when the dispute had almost ended in a discreditable collision that the Maharaja yielded to a demand, the justice of which he did not dispute. As a yearly settlement of accounts is necessary so long as the heir apparent holds the pergunnah, there will be a yearly danger of a repetition of the scenes which have just been enacted.

Settlement with younger sons.

29. The income fixed for the other grown-up sons of the Maharaja was Rupees 20,000 a year for all excepting the second, who was to receive Rupees 25,000. The arrangement has been accepted by the other sons, but not by the second (Zorawur Singh), who has been in the habit of receiving nearly double the above amount.

Settlement of Hookumnamah.

30. The settlement of the Hookumnamah or relief on succession to estates and the abolition of "Tajeerat" (an irregular exaction on like occasions on the ryots of an estate), which was effected last year, has given great satisfaction. Both parties have abided by the settlement, and when the Raj officials on one or two occasions have attempted to enforce a higher rate of Hookumnamah than decreed, I have found that the attempt has been at once relinquished on my speaking to the Vakeel on the subject.

Settlement with outlawed Thakoors.

31. The Maharaja has not yet formally accepted the decision given by me with regard to the outlawed Thakoors, excepting in the case of Goolur and Bajoowas; but even with regard to these, the portion of their estates which was decreed to the Raj has not yet been taken possession of; and there may be some difficulty when it is attempted from the long possession the Thakoors will have had. The Goolur Thakoor is now in great favour at Court. By the agreement the Maharaja agreed to appeal without delay if he was dissatisfied with the decisions given. More than a year has now elapsed, but no appeal has been made. He does not appear to be strongly opposed to any of the decrees, excepting in the case of the Asoph Thakoor, and he has informed me that, if the Asoph estate was settled according to his own desire, he would not object to the recommendations respecting the rent. He has, consequently, summoned the Asoph Thakoor to Court with this object.

Greater Feudatories.

32. The mediation which I undertook between the principal Thakoors and the Maharaja has not been interfered with, excepting in a single case (Chirranee), but I regret to say that the Maharaja has since made no attempt to conciliate his feudatories. They are in possession of their estates, but none of them have been summoned to the capital.

They have paid the Rekh due for the year, which they had not done during the two previous years, and their quotas are ready for service, whenever they may be called upon; but no disposition has been shown to consult them, or to make use of their services, in the government of the country. They are on good terms with the heir apparent, and this of itself causes their loyalty to be suspected.

Lesser Thakoors.

33. No enquiry has been entered upon as to the claims of the lesser Thakoors to the villages of which they had possessed themselves; consequently, many of those which might have been added to the fisc are still in the possession of the Thakoors. After the mediation of last year, the villages unjustly occupied were vacated by the Thakoors, but were not occupied by the Raj, because no revenue could be expected from them during the continuance of a famine. Observing the carelessness of the State, in some instances the lesser Thakoors who were in favour, in others favourites, and even the natural sons of the Maharaja, occupied villages which appeared unclaimed, on which the rest were again taken possession of by those who had vacated them shortly before. As long as bad seasons bring no revenue, the Raj would prefer to have it in its power to demand Rekh, disregarding the after-consequences of their carelessness. Indeed, so little thought is bestowed in such seasons on anything beyond the city walls which does not yield revenue, that I believe it would be quite possible for a Thakoor with a few horsemen to occupy ten or twelve Crown villages. He would not be interfered with for a long time, and when he was, it would be difficult for the Raj to dislodge him. By such culpable delay many are led to acts which they would not otherwise have committed.

Courts of Justice.

34. There has been no improvement during the year in the manner in which the Civil and Criminal Courts at Jodhpore have worked. For a few months there were fair hopes of improvement, and each month Returns exhibited some amount of work done. The Minister, Joshee Huneraj, however, delegated the hearing of appeals to an inferior Motsuddee,—a proceeding which was not checked by the Maharaja. On this the heads of the Court, who were equal to the Minister in social position, followed his example, as they would not consent to appeals from themselves being heard by an inferior. After the resignation of the Joshee and the appointment of Murdan Ali Khan as Minister, the heads of the Court would not work with a foreigner, and were dissatisfied with his hauteur and inaccessibility. The old system of obtaining justice by influencing favourites at Court, therefore, has again come into the ascendant.

35. The trading classes complain very much of this. About a hundred and fifty of the wealthiest bankers at Jodhpore have large sums employed in loans to the jaghiredars and other landed proprietors. They liquidate the Rekh on the estates as it falls due, and advance money for marriages, &c., to the Thakoors, receiving in payment assignments on their villages. Formerly neglect to meet his obligations on the part of a Thakoor was met by an application to the Civil Court to send a "Dustuk" (fine) on the defaulter till such time as

an arrangement had been come to with the banker. Since the collapse of the Courts no attention is paid to the demands of the bankers by the Thakoors, and their inability to realize has affected the prosperity of the city, for the bankers have been unable to make advances to the petty traders. The markets have been, consequently, paralyzed, and want of confidence engendered. The price of grain, too, having been so long at famine rates, many of the shop-keepers have been obliged to sell the jewels of the female members of their families to purchase food, all of which has caused great depression amongst the trading classes. Several serious failures have occurred, and at one time a monetary panic was imminent, and was only averted by the Maharaja advancing about a lakh of rupees to some of the firms and allowing time for the payment of his Government bills then due.

Disputed boundary.

36. The disputed boundary between Bass of Jeysulmere and Phulowdee in Marwar has been again agitated. Colonel Ludlow enquired into the merits of this dispute in A.D. 1842, and demarcated a line which he recommended for settlement, but which was not carried out. The dispute broke out afresh in A.D. 1856. Sir Richmond Shakespear, then Political Agent, agreed to define the boundary in the following cold season; but that officer's removal to Baroda postponed action. The quarrel has now arisen in consequence of last season's favourable rains on the Jeysulmere border rendering the land capable of producing extensive unirrigated wheat crops. The dispute involves the proprietary right to about 30 or 40 square miles of land, but always lies dormant till a plentiful rainy season renders the ground culturable.

Police in Marwar.

37. The Police duties in Marwar are undertaken by the troops of the State and the Jaghiredar Horse of the Thakoors. Last year both were disorganized by the famine and the want of grass, so that the Police posts were all abandoned. The troops have not yet been reorganized through the delay of the Durbar, nor have the Thakoors been called upon to supply their quotas of horse. Some slight progress has been made in the reorganization of the troops, but arms and accoutrements are sadly deficient. Plunderers and bad characters have taken advantage of this want of means, and have become more than usually daring. They are generally individually known, but at present defy the officers of the Raj. If they had been driven to plunder to satisfy the cravings of hunger, we should have heard of attacks on grain convoys, but such a crime has been almost unknown. The Jat cultivators would rather starve than plunder, whilst hunger amongst the lower classes and Bheels and Meenas has shown itself in isolated cases of lifting and slaughtering horned cattle and camels. The plundering has taken place near the frontiers of the country in attacks on traders with cash and property by parties of armed Rajpoots of this and the neighbouring States, who have taken advantage of the general disorganization.

38. The principal borders where lawlessness has been most rife have been Godwar, Sirohi frontier, Jeysulmere frontier, and Seekur frontier.

Godwar.

39. The Meenas of Godwar, on the failure of the crops in 1868, commenced a system of highway robbery which rendered travelling in Godwar unsafe. They were protected by one or two Thakoor, especially by the Thakoor of Syanah, who had been in outlawry in A.D. 1848. A hill in the Aravallee Mountains, in the neighbourhood of Syanah, was a notorious rendezvous for all the bad characters of the neighbourhood. To this hill they brought and divided their plunder, and from this they directed their forays. The murderers of the Cabul merchants and the perpetrators of the dacoitee on the Jeysulmere mahajuns near Nandolai were also sheltered here.

40. After the heir apparent, Jeswunt Singh, had received charge of Godwar, he organized an expedition against Syanah. The Meenas resisted capture, and in the fight which took place, the heir apparent, who was present in person, had six men killed and wounded, and the Meenas lost 16 killed. Many wounded Meenas and several others besides were seized and imprisoned. The Thakoor of Syanah eluded capture, but subsequently surrendered. He was bound over by the heir apparent never again to harbour plunderers and to remove the village away from the hill, on agreeing to which the village was restored to him.

41. Another nest of Meena plunderers resided at Eendul-ro-goorah, a zenana village near Palee. The principal leader was Gujjea Bheel, who had been for many years the terror of the Pahlunpoor District, but who had hitherto escaped apprehension. After the capture of Syanah the village of Eendul-ro-goorah was suddenly surrounded. The Meenas, however, had received so wholesome a lesson at Syanah, that they surrendered to the number of 310. Of these, 60 of the worst characters were detained, and the rest released. Shortly afterwards Gujjea was apprehended by some of the Ahore Thakoor's people. The effect of these measures was at once to put a stop to all plundering in Godwar; and since August last, when they took place, not a single complaint has been preferred against that part of the country.

Sirohi Frontier.

42. The State of the Sirohi frontier has been constantly brought to the notice of the Maharaja. It is affected by the outlawry of the family of Nathoo Singh, of Buttanah, in Sirohi, who was related by marriage to some of the petty Thakoor on the border. There are four or five villages, which are most notorious, and the inhabitants of which have the credit of joining Nathoo Singh's son (Nathoo Singh himself being dead) in his expeditions against Sirohi. I have hopes that as soon as the Jeysulmere and Seekur frontiers are put into order this one will be taken in hand, and the refractory villages of Loheeanah, Checklee, Oochmut, and Purrin punished for their inveterate recusancy.

Jeysulmere border.

43. On the Jeysulmere border the Bhatties had commenced early in the year (1869) to plunder in Mullanee and the western districts of Marwar. They had been checked by the line of jaghiredar posts which I had placed across Mullanee for the protection of the Scinde road, but

again resumed their excesses as soon as the posts were withdrawn. The original intention was to have withdrawn these posts in the month of July, by which time it was hoped that a sufficiency of grass would have enabled the Raj Sowars to resume their duties. The late period at which the rains commenced prevented the relief of the posts before October, when the Minister informed me he could relieve them. No efficient body of men, however, was sent, and the wretched tattoos on which the sowars were mounted were no match for the swift camels of the bold and daring Bhatties, which are accustomed to carry a couple of armed men 50 or 60 miles a day for days together. The Jeysulmere Bhatties, joined by the turbulent inhabitants of Sakra in Marwar, issued forth in bodies of 10 to 50 camelmén, and plundered some small hamlets in Mullanee, which were distant from support. The Jeysulmere authorities, on being applied to, checked the Bhatties, but nothing was done to the Sakra plunderers, who extended their expeditions to the town of Puchbuddra. In several cases camels carried off from traders were seen and recognized in Sakra; but the Hakim of the district had no means of recovering them.

44. The extent of the excesses committed by Sakra and the immunity enjoyed by that village is shown by the fact that no less than seven decisions involving compensation to the amount of Rupees 4,640-8 for highway robberies and dacoities, out of 11 cases brought forward, have been decreed against it by the Court of Vakeels in the space of 12 months, and not a single individual has been punished on account of them.

45. Sakra is a considerable Bhomeea village, paying no revenue. It has a large extent of two crop land, with water close to the surface, but not an acre is cultivated, the Bhomeeas living entirely by plunder. It was originally in the Pokhurn Estate, but the Thakoor gave it up, as he received no revenue from it, and had to pay compensation for cases decreed against it. Sakra then became khalsa. Colonel Nixon, when Political Agent, with the view of stopping its lawless proceedings, directed the Pokhurn Thakoor to place some horsemen in the village, which aroused an inimical feeling against Pokhurn on the part of the Bhomeeas. The Maharaja withdrew the Pokhurn Thannah when he became offended with the Thakoor of Pokhurn, and the devastations committed on the Pokhurn villages by the Bhomeeas were rather encouraged. When the dissensions between the Maharaja and the principal Thakoors of the State were mediated last year, the Sakra dispute with Pokhurn was also settled. The Thakoor, to protect himself, conciliated the Bhomeeas, since which time they have turned their attention to plundering khalsa villages and travellers. My repeated applications to the Raj in regard to this village were for a long time unheeded, but troops have lately been sent to Sakra to enforce obedience; but whether orders for the punishment of the Bhomeeas have been issued I cannot say. The intention appeared to be only to place a thannah at Sakra, as the Bhomeeas have a friend at Court.

North-Eastern Frontier.

46. In the north-eastern corner of Marwar, the villages of Boodsoo, Burrurwa, Khatoth, Bambhot, &c., have long harboured the bad characters of Bicanere, Seekur, and the neighbouring Marwar Districts. The Thakoors of Boodsoo, Munnanah, &c., are in favour with the Maharaja, and many of the raids committed by their followers have been instigated by evil advisers at Jodhpore, who unfortunately are not checked by

His Highness, and who act with the object of giving trouble and annoyance to the Koochawun and the more respectable Thakoors. Eventually measures were adopted, and are now being carried out, to bring this border into order. The Hakim of Nagore, accompanied by the Koochawun Thakoor, surrounded the village of Bambhot. The small fort was carried sword in hand, and the whole gang of 10 plunderers was seized. Since then some of the Burrurwa plunderers have been apprehended, and amongst them one or two noted outlaws. Measures are said to be in progress with regard to Boodsoo and Khatoth.

Mangulwa.

47. In this direction there is an internal boundary dispute about the village site of Mangulwa, which may at any time cause a feud in the great Mairteea clan of the Rahtores. Colonel Ludlow decided that the site should remain khalsa. Zenana influence, however, lately overpersuaded the Maharaja to make a grant of the site to the Munnanah Thakoor, one of the disputants. The Thakoor erected a fort on the disputed land and collected troops. The Koree Thakoor, a relative of the Koochawun Thakoor of the opposite party, listened to my advice, and, though a large force was also collected on his side, avoided a collision. I pointed out to the Maharaja that, as he had interfered with the settlement made by Colonel Ludlow, the responsibility of any bloodshed would rest with him. His Highness has now sent an Agent to prevent an outbreak. I have introduced the case to show the difficulty of getting the Durbar to deal equitably in such questions when the pressure of parties in favour is enlisted on one or the other side.

Chirrance.

48. The only outbreak which has occurred during the course of this year has been caused by a similar want of honest action on the part of the Durbar, and with the view of sowing dissension amongst the Thakoors. The Maharaja, in December last, wrote over to the Kejurla Thakoor half of (Chirrance) a village which belonged to a dependant of the Neemaj Thakoor, and which had been so decided by Colonel Ludlow. In conformity with that officer's settlement, Chirrance was made over to the Jaghiredar last year, and the Neemaj Thakoor naturally opposes the Kejurla Thakoor now getting half. At my suggestion, both the Kejurla and Neemaj Thakoors were directed to withdraw their troops, and to leave the crops with the cultivators till the question should be decided. The Neemaj Thakoor withdrew his troops, but the Kejurla Thakoor, feeling certain of the influence by which he was backed, disobeyed the order and occupied the village. The Neemaj troops again assembled and marched to dispossess him, and a fray ensued, in which six or seven men on either side were killed and wounded. Fresh orders caused the evacuation of the village and the dispersion of the troops.

Observations on Marwar.

49. There are seeds of discord in Marwar, which may at any time spring up and convulse the country, but a just course of action and an honest desire to deal fairly will always prevent a resort to

arms. The Thakoors, as a rule, are anxious to avoid feuds amongst themselves, but are obliged by their sense of honor to revenge insult when offered. If treated impartially they are easily managed, and are well disposed towards British officers and readily meet our wishes. On several occasions during the past year, when referred to by the Maharaja regarding the proprietary right to villages, I have been able to obtain easily the surrender of such regarding which I had expressed an opinion adverse to the holders. In case of ancient feuds, so ready a compliance might not have been shown, but all parties are satisfied when disputed properties are made khalsa pending a settlement.

50. The conduct of the Maharaja during the period under review has been of the most friendly and courteous character to myself individually and to every British officer. He has been always willing to receive my suggestions, and if he has not acted on them as much as I could have wished, it has been in consequence of the influence of those who surround him working on his weak nature, and not from any intention to disregard what I have said. Much of the advice given through his counsellors is withheld from the Maharaja, or so perverted as to be worthless. When it is uttered in the Palace by myself, the Moosahibs are obliged of course to agree to what he affirms, so that the value of advice is greatly weakened. It need not, however, be regarded as extraordinary if a Sovereign, after 26 years' enjoyment of arbitrary power, be unable to bear contradiction or to listen to truth. The Maharaja is quite aware that what I have advised has been for his best interests, but the course a British officer takes is too simple for the crooked ways of Marwar. The condition of Marwar is still deserving of anxious consideration. The landed aristocracy of the country are separated from the Court, and there is much discontent at the way in which the administration is being conducted, and at the injustice and general want of honesty of the officials.

Lease of Sambhur.

51. The British Government lately concluded a Treaty with the Jodhpore Government for the lease of the Jodhpore share of the joint jurisdiction of the salt manufactured at Sambhur. The terms of the lease were a payment of Rupees 1,25,000 a year, together with a royalty of 20 per cent. on the amount of all sales beyond 8½ lakhs of maunds of salt a year. The Treaty was signed at Jodhpore on the 27th January 1870.

Lease of Nawa and Goodha.

52. A second Treaty was signed between the two Governments on the 17th of April 1870 for the lease, by the State of Jodhpore, to the British Government, of the Nawa and Goodha Salt Marts (also on the Sambhur Lake) at a rent of Rupees 3,00,000 a year, together with a royalty of 40 per cent. on all yearly sales beyond 900,000 maunds of salt.

53. The Sambhur Salt Mart was made over to our Government on the 1st February 1870, but the Nawa and Goodha marts have not yet been taken possession of. The sales of salt this year have been exceptionally high in consequence of the large imports of grain into Ajmere and Marwar enabling carriers to secure a load both ways.

Road.

54. That portion of the Agra and Ahmedabad Road between Burr and Erinpoora, the construction of which through his territories the Maharaja agreed to defray, has been commenced. When the agreement was made, it was supposed that the amount for construction would be advanced as required by the British Government, the Marwar State paying its contribution at the end of the year. The Financial Department has, however, ruled that the cost is to be taken in the first instance from the Native State. This has caused a sudden stoppage of work, the scale on which the works were begun not having been limited by any consideration of the amount of contribution.

Dispensaries.

55. The dispensaries in the city of Jodhpore and at Palee have worked satisfactorily during the past year: 406 in-patients and 10,425 out-patients were relieved at these institutions during the year. Four important and 163 minor operations were performed, and an expenditure incurred of Rupees 3,844-0-9, which was defrayed by the Durbar. A new dispensary has been opened at Jessole in Mullanee, a town of 6,000 inhabitants on the banks of the River Loonee, and the residence of the Deputy of Mullanee. Opposite to Jessole, on the other side of the river, is situated the large trading mart of Balotra, with about 15,000 inhabitants, and containing 400 or 500 merchants' houses. The establishment of a dispensary at Jessole was hailed with delight by the inhabitants of both places, and the sick at once flocked to it. There could not have been found in Mullanee a better spot for a dispensary than Jessole.

Vaccination.

56. The number of vaccinations performed during the year was only 3,614, of which 1,713 were reported successful. The cost was Rupees 351, as there were only three vaccinators employed, but in August last the Maharaja consented to the establishment from 1st January 1870 of an efficient staff of vaccinators for Marwar according to a scheme prepared by Dr. Moore. There will now be 11 vaccinators on good salaries, and the yearly cost is estimated at Rupees 2,520 a year.

Post.

57. There have been no mail robberies during the year, notwithstanding that the banghy mails were for the greater period quite unprotected. Runners were twice stopped and relieved of the ornaments said to have been on their persons, but the mails were not interfered with. In one case a district distributor lost a pair of gold earrings, for which he received compensation. The other case is not yet settled, the runner complaining of having been relieved of a sum of Rupees 17 and a pair of silver anklets, which appears very improbable.

Court of Vakeels.

58. The Marwar Court of Vakeels held their Sessions at Aboo, Ajmere, and Jodhpore during the year, and I am much indebted to those Members of the Court who have been present for the excellent way

in which they have performed their duty and the unbiassed character of their decisions. The work brought before the Court has been very heavy, and the cases important.

59. In a Court before which so much work comes, it is very desirable that each State should bear its full share in the responsibility of the decisions. No Biccaneere Vakeel has been in attendance at the Marwar Court for more than a year. Khureetas have been addressed to the Maharaja of Biccaneere, and fruitless endeavours made by Captain Powlett for the despatch of a Vakeel to Jodhpore, but none has yet been sent.

60. The number of cases brought before the Court of Vakeels was 427, of which 303 have been decided and 124 remain on the file.

ABSTRACT of Cases brought before the Marwar Court of Vakeels between 1st April 1869 and 31st of March 1870.

| Remaining on 1st April 1869. | Received during the year. | Total. | Number decided. | Remaining on 31st March 1870. | ABSTRACT OF APPEALS. | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|
| | | | | | Number appealed. | Confirmed. | Returned for revision. | Remaining. |
| 192 | 235 | 427 | 303 | 124 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 5 |

Highway robbery.

61. Seventeen cases of highway robbery and gang robbery were proved. Of these, 14 were decreed against Marwar, one against Jeysulmere, and two against Mullanee. Ten of these were committed on British subjects from the Punjab, Hansi, and Hissar. Traders hire camels from residents of these districts, who also load a few camels with grain on their own account for sale in Marwar. They continue in charge of their camels, and take also buffaloes for sale or money for the purchase of cattle; and when their grain and buffaloes are disposed of, and they have received the hire of the camels, each man generally has a considerable amount of cash about his person. As they are not allowed to carry arms in British territory, and the trouble of getting passes would put a stop to all trade in Marwar, they fall an easy prey to the first party of wandering marauders whom they meet, who perhaps would not have meddled with them if they had had a few weapons. In one case 15 men possessed amongst them Rupees 1,980, and though the amount owned by each was not large, yet it was quite without protection. The Native Governments, who are called upon to pay compensation, consider that traders so circumstanced should be permitted to

carry arms. In the desert districts they do not keep to specified routes, but travel across country straight to their destinations, irrespective of any Police posts or villages which may be near their track. It is impossible for the Native State to protect unarmed traders in every part of their journey in such a country. Cabul fruit merchants are also obliged to leave their arms at their homes, as they have to traverse Scinde or the Punjab, and are exposed in the same manner to attacks by even single marauders. Till a general disarmament can be carried out in Native States, all traders entering Rajwarra might be permitted to provide themselves with arms, lodging them on their return at the nearest Police post to the border.

62. The amount of claims for compensation preferred before the Court of Vakeels amounted to Rupees 54,861; the decrees awarded to Rupees 36,107-10, as follows:—

| | | | Rs. | a. | p. |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|--------|----|----|
| Against Marwar | ... | ... | 22,168 | 12 | 0 |
| Do. Jeypore | ... | ... | 6,248 | 2 | 0 |
| Do. Kishengurh | ... | ... | 469 | 0 | 0 |
| Do. Ajmere and Mhairwarra | ... | ... | 96 | 0 | 0 |
| Do. Oodeypore | ... | ... | 72 | 0 | 0 |
| Do. Sirohi | ... | ... | 5,104 | 6 | 0 |
| Do. Pahlunpore | ... | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Do. Mullanes | ... | ... | 1,366 | 6 | 0 |
| Do. Jeysulmere | ... | ... | 420 | 0 | 0 |
| Do. Biccaneere | ... | ... | 183 | 0 | 0 |
| Total ... Rs. | | | 36,147 | 10 | 0 |

Outstandings of Agency Treasurer.

63. The amounts of awards outstanding due to the Agency Treasurer are as follows:—

| | | | Rs. | a. | p. |
|------------------|-----|-----|----------|----|----|
| By Marwar | ... | ... | 55,638 | 15 | 7 |
| „ Jeypore | ... | ... | 3,515 | 8 | 6 |
| „ Kishengurh | ... | ... | 712 | 9 | 3 |
| „ Oodeypore | ... | ... | 620 | 6 | 0 |
| „ Sirohi | ... | ... | 3,692 | 13 | 0 |
| „ Pahlunpore | ... | ... | 646 | 15 | 0 |
| „ Jeysulmere | ... | ... | 9,622 | 4 | 9 |
| „ Biccaneere | ... | ... | 30,004 | 8 | 10 |
| „ Jatla (Ajmere) | ... | ... | 395 | 4 | 0 |
| Total ... Rs. | | | 1,04,848 | 0 | 9 |

64. Regarding the above sums, Jeysulmere has not paid anything for eight years, and the last payment, excepting one or two trifling sums, made by Biccaneere, was in 1858.

65. The bankers do not approve of being kept out of their balances for an indefinite period. The orders are against their closing their books yearly. If the interest were paid yearly, they would not object; but at present, as the rate of interest charged on account of these awards is lower than that at which the Native States can themselves procure money, it is an actual advantage to them to let the Treasurers' debt run on rather than borrow at a higher rate of interest to pay it off. The difference expresses the value of our guarantee. To give this to the non-paying Native State appears to lead in some instances to an indefinite delay in liquidating the balances.

Establishments.

66. The European and Native Establishments of this Agency have performed their duties with zeal and assiduity. Many of them are underpaid, and have not been able, during a season such as we have passed through, to support themselves on the salaries they receive. The present financial pressure has caused a postponement of the question, but I think it my duty to record my opinion of the hardship of giving men small salaries in a country like Marwar, where, in comparison with the prices in our provinces, food is always at famine rates.

Mullanee.

67. In my remarks on the famine in Marwar I included Mullanee, which has been reduced to poverty, and which will take many years to recover its former prosperity. The mortality amongst the cattle was, if anything, greater than in the rest of Marwar. The Thakoors, instead of keeping herds of cows, are now obliged to content themselves with goats to supply them with milk. Most of their stock of brood mares, which were before a source of considerable wealth to them, have also died. The greater number have lost the savings of former years, and many have parted with their ornaments. The consideration of the means of raising revenue to pay for a reorganized administration of Mullanee must be of necessity postponed. The scheme proposed by Captain Impey, of doubling the Fonj Bul or tribute paid by the Thakoors, always appeared to me as one very difficult to carry out and likely to cause much discontent. In the meantime, the Deputy at Mullanee receives only Rupees 50 a month, and the Raj Sowars are as inefficient as ever.

JEYSULMERE.

During the last year died Thakoor Kesree Singh, uncle of the Maharawal of Jeysulmere, and for 25 years Minister and virtual Ruler of the State. He has been succeeded by his elder brother, Chuttur Singh, who is respected by all classes, though he does not possess the determined character of Kesree Singh, nor is he so much feared by the plundering Bhatties.

2. The arrangements made by Ressaldar Abbas Ali, the Agent deputed to Jeysulmere to assist in forwarding grain from Scinde to the famine districts, received full support from Kesree Singh. On his return, the Ressaldar reported that 235,000 camel-loads, representing 1,175,000 maunds of grain, had passed from Scinde and Bhawalpore to Marwar through Jeysulmere; and that a large portion of the sum for which this

grain was sold had been taken back to those countries in coin, to the supposed amount of 25 or 26 lakhs of rupees. Not a single dacoitee or robbery occurred on these convoys, either in Marwar or Jeysulmere.

3. For the supply of the caravans with water in the desert, where there is one stretch of 80 miles on either road, in which no water is procurable, the Jeysulmere authorities maintained large reservoirs at stated intervals kept constantly filled with water. The expense of this was great, but less than might at first sight appear, as in countries like Jeysulmere the officials are accustomed on occasion to adopt some such measures for the supply of travellers. On this occasion the measures required were extraordinary on account of the great number of animals for which provision had to be made. The tax levied to cover the expense of filling the reservoirs was four annas a maund, or Rupees 1-4 per camel-load. Of the 235,000 loads, 135,000 were owned by Charuns and traders claiming exemption from all taxes, so that it was levied upon 100,000 only; but even this left a large margin of profit.

4. During the year Jeysulmere was free from cholera, which made such havoc in Jodhpore. Heavy rain fell in April, and again in the latter end of May, so that the tanks overflowed and a rich crop of grass sprung up, when on Marwar the hot winds were still blowing. The whole country was filled with emigrants from Marwar and Mullanee till late in the season.

HARAOTEE AGENCY REPORT, 1869-70.

INTRODUCTORY.

Changes in the territorial distribution and personnel of the Agency.

THE only change which occurred during the year in the territorial administration of the Agency was the addition of the Chiefship of Shahpoora, which in August last was transferred from the charge of the Ajmere Commissionership to that of this Office. The Haraotee Agency now embraces a political supervision of the States of—

| | | |
|------------|--|------------|
| Boondce, | | Jhallawar, |
| Kotah, | | Tonk, and |
| Shahpoora, | | |

and a superintendence of the Kherar, a tract formed of the Meena Districts of Meywar, Jeypore, and Boondce.

2. Early in June the Agency lost its Political Agent, the late Captain A. N. Bruce. By his untimely death the Government of India has been deprived of the services of one of its ablest officers, and the States of a warm and sincere friend, ever jealous of their honor and good name and labouring for their welfare.

3. In October Captain J. J. Blair, the Assistant Agent on Special Duty at Tonk, was promoted to the Eastern Agency. Deputed on the deposition of the Ex-Nawab, he was called on to support and direct a temporary administration beset with difficulties of no ordinary kind. The successful manner in which he not only performed this duty, but without extraneous aid reorganized almost the entire economy of the State, are well known both to the Governor-General's Agent and the Government of India. Shunning aught like the assumption of power or authority, the reforms he accomplished were effected through the agency of the people themselves, and, as such, promise to be lasting and permanent. The secret of his success lay in his warm sympathy for all with whom he was brought in contact,—a sympathy which had the effect of drawing all to him. It was this which secured for him that measure of confidence which enabled him to do so much good, and which often brought Thakoors and people of distant States to seek his advice. His connection with Tonk did not cease with his transfer, and his death was mourned as a national calamity.

4. It was not until December that his successor, Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Blair, was able to join the Agency.

The Famine.

5. A history of the year under report would be incomplete without some detailed account of the calamitous famine which has afflicted the country, and the effects of which, as visible in the terrible gaps left in every village, hearth, and homestead, will not be effaced for many generations. In offering such a sketch, I would refer to the separate notice subsequently given of each State for all particulars.

State of the country at the commencement of the year.

6. The beginning of the year found the whole area of the Agency in a greater or less degree affected by the famine. In the southern portion, which to the last never came within the true famine circle, grain had become scarce and dear; but in Boondée, in the Tonk and Aligurh Pergunnabs of Tonk, in Shahpoora and the Meena Districts, actual want and distress had prevailed for months. It could no longer be disguised that the hope that rates would fall on the produce of the spring crop entering the markets was a vain one. Grain in the more northerly districts was selling at $9\frac{1}{2}$ seers for the rupee. Grass was not to be purchased, and in the absence of fodder horned cattle were dying in numbers. The future was dark and gloomy, and an early and seasonable monsoon could alone bring relief.

Relief measures.

7. The value of the measures which had been previously set on foot for the relief of the destitute began now to be fully felt. At Deolee, at Tonk, and in the Jehâzpore Pergunnah of Meywar, work was provided for the able-bodied, and at the two first places poor-houses extended relief to the sickly and the weak. The labour and maintenance thus afforded to hundreds of the neighbouring poor alleviated a large amount of local distress.

Relief measures at Deolee.

8. The operations at Deolee were supported by a fund originally raised by my predecessor by donations from the Chiefs of Kotah, Jhalawar, Indurgurh, Meywar, and Jeypore, and subsequently maintained by monthly contributions from the three first, the European and Native Officers and men of the 2nd Bengal Cavalry and Deolee Irregular Force, the Vakeels and establishments attached to the Agency, and the traders in the Civil and Military Bazaars. In consideration of the relief afforded to the poor of the adjoining British districts, the fund was subsidized by the Central Committee at Ajmere. In July, on its being found that upwards of half the people supported were subjects of Jeypore, an application was made to the Maharaja of that State to assist us by a small monthly subscription, but, I regret to say, without success.

Relief measures at Tonk.

9. At Tonk suffering and want were to be witnessed to a large extent. Relief works were consequently carried on on a liberal scale by the Native Government, aided by private subscriptions from His Highness the Nawab, the local British Agency, and the principal Nobles and merchants. As at Deolee, a very large proportion of the poor were subjects of Jeypore.

Relief measures in Jehazpore.

10. To provide employment in the Jehazpore Pergunnah, the Meywar Durbar had sanctioned an outlay of Rupees 14,000. Labour was offered on the embankment of a tank and some smaller works at and about Jehazpore itself.

Relief measures in Ajmere.

11. Subsequently the construction of a road though our own districts to connect Deolee with Nusseerabad was sanctioned by Government as a famine work. The bad faith, however, of the sub-contractors among whom the work was sublet prevented this measure from proving so successful as it might otherwise have been.

Relief measures in Jhallawar.

12. Jhallawar was the only other portion of the Agency in which special measures were adopted to alleviate distress. Labour was offered on public works and food given to the weak and ill.

Liberality of the Mahajun class.

13. But everywhere throughout the country the famine called forth more or less conspicuously the open-handed charity of the Mahajun classes. Both jointly as corporations and privately as individuals they distributed grain, food, and clothing; and at more than one place, in order that succour might reach those ashamed to accept relief publicly, they sent round supplies after dark with a bell.

Assistance by the Maharaj Rana of Jhallawar in supplying Deolee with grain.

14. The provident measures taken by the Officers Commanding the 2nd Bengal Cavalry and the Deolee Irregular Force and by Captain J. Blair relieved this Office of any anxiety in regard to the regiments stationed at Deolee and the Tonk Pergunnahs. But at Boondee and at and about Deolee it early became evident that the stocks of grain were falling very low, and that importation would be largely required. Such aid as the Boondee Durbar required was rendered, and the Maharaj Rana of Jhallawar and the traders of Jhalra Patun and Kotah were applied to for assistance in procuring and forwarding supplies. The Maharaj Rana, with his usual readiness, at once responded to the call, and sent some 60,000 maunds, for which at first he could not be induced to accept payment, it being His Highness' wish that it should be considered as a gift from himself. The Maharaj Rana's interest further secured the despatch by the merchants of his capital of grain to the value of 1½ lakhs. All these supplies were disposed of at and about Deolee, and went far to assist the cantonment and the districts in its vicinity in weathering the hot weather months.

Outbreak of cholera.

15. As the season advanced distress and suffering daily increased. The heat was intense and prostrated numbers. Water in many parts was not to be had, and its absence added to the sufferings of the cattle. At Deolee, where the element is at the best of times scarce, special measures had to be adopted to guard the supply. Towards the end of May cholera broke out in several parts of the country. Spreading in all directions, its march from Kotah northwards exempted neither village nor hamlet. The Boondee Chief, hoping to save his capital by the closing of all communication, stationed posts on the Kotah Road. A similar attempt was made a few miles out of Deolee at a pass in the hills. But human measures

seemed to be futile in arresting the onward march of the disease. It appeared in Boondee, and, passing on, broke out suddenly in Agency limits at Deolee on the morning of the 2nd of June. For three days it raged, the Political Agent being one of the victims. Panic-struck private and public followers fled in all directions. Business was suspended, and many had none to minister to their wants. During this period the disease, with the exception of one fatal case in the Deolee Irregular Force, was confined to the Agency. Subsequently a few cases occurred among the camp followers of the 2nd Bengal Cavalry. It then appeared in the Deolee Irregular Force, and hung about the corps till the end of August. It was, however, of a mild type, the proportion of casualties being very small. That it should have spared the weak and sickly collected on the famine works and at the poor-houses was a matter of wonder and of the greatest thankfulness.

16. Pestilence was now added to famine, and the people, heart-broken and weary, lay down and died.

17. It was at this period that I joined the Agency. My journey to Deolee through Marwar and the south of Ajmere was of the most painful nature, and the suffering and death I had to witness, but had no power to mitigate, I shall never forget.

Increase of suffering.

18. In June and July distress was very severe, and deaths from positive starvation lamentably numerous. Miserable skeletons found their way into the station in the last stage of emaciation and weakness, and with that terribly drawn expression of face which the famine rendered so familiar. Too often they only crawled in to die. In the town of Tonk destitution was of course more apparent than elsewhere, and the scenes more harrowing. The average price of grain had now advanced to seven seers.

The rains.

19. Speaking generally, the monsoon set in about the 10th of July. From that date rain fell everywhere in abundance. With the first fall numbers left the relief works for their homes. The area sown, save in Kotah and Jhallawar, was much below the average, and ranged from three-quarters in Tonk to two-thirds in Boondee and Shahpoora. Owing to the mortality which had occurred among the cattle very much of the ground had to be prepared by hand,—a mode of tillage which entailed weary toil and labour. Early in August a break ensued, and there was an almost entire cessation of rain for three or four weeks. By the end of the month the protracted failure of the monsoon began to excite anxiety and gradually alarm. Daily accounts are received from every quarter of a scorching sun burning up the seedlings and tender grass shoots, and the state of matters over the whole country had become most critical, when the monsoon reappeared and rain fell widely. The grass and crops revived and sprouted, and as the rain continued the agricultural prospects of the provinces were felt to be assured. In Kotah and Jhallawar such a rain crop had not, it was said, been seen for 10 years, and in the north the more limited area sown was very promising.

Locusts.

20. But no sooner was apprehension thus allayed than locusts appeared, and the cultivator had to guard his fields from the flights which day after day passed over the country. Little loss was occasioned by the full-grown insect, and the classes who in every State hold lands rent-free in consideration of their ability to ward off such visitations vaunted of their power. But it was found that where the flights had alighted they had deposited their eggs. Portions of the country were soon literally carpeted with the young, and where this was the case the damage caused was very considerable. Boondee, Tonk, Shahpoora, and the Meena Districts again suffered the most, Kotah and Jhallawar escaping all but entirely. The actual loss occasioned varied from 75 per cent. in some villages to 10 in others. Distributed over the entire crop, it was estimated at from three annas in the rupee (or 19 per cent.) in Boondee, to five annas (or 30 per cent.) in Shahpoora.

Distress in September.

21. With the heavy rain cholera had gradually disappeared, lingering latest of all at Kotah and Tonk, which it did not leave till the beginning of August. During that month and in the beginning of September misery and suffering as arising from want were at their height. About the end of September the price of grain had risen to five seers for the rupee, and importation having been checked by the state of the country, actual scarcity was on one or two occasions experienced both at Tonk and Deolee. The lower classes, however, had ere this begun to secure a subsistence from the seeds of the grasses which the rain had brought up, more especially from the "Sauwan," a kind of wild rice.

Epidemic of fever.

22. In the beginning of October prices for the first time showed symptoms of retrograding, and, as the produce of the harvest became available, to fall steadily. The plentiful rains had given promise of a good spring crop, there was ample occupation for all classes of the community, and prospects were everywhere brightening, when the country was called on to undergo its last, and perhaps its severest, trial. Low intermittent fever and in places scurvy prostrated the people, who, weakened by a long course of bad and insufficient food, sunk and died. The mortality during October, November, and December, owing to this epidemic, was very great, upwards of half the deaths which occurred throughout the year being ascribed to it. No portion of the country was exempted, though, perhaps, Shahpoora suffered the most. In marching through what are large populous villages, two or three wan figures were alone to be seen; while in many parts of Kotah the jowar was standing far into the cold weather, there being no one to cut it. The prevalence of sickness seriously retarded field operations, already crippled by the loss of cattle, and the spring crop was in many parts not sown till late in the season. In December the epidemic began to abate and the country to recover. Since then each week has brought relief and cheaper prices. The spring crop, blessed with good winter showers, has generally been a fair one. Plenty once more prevails, and it is only the cattle bones, which surround the villages in mounds and strew the highways, that recall the terrible era through which we have passed.

Present state of the country.

The new arrangements at Sambhur, too, have had the effect of stimulating the grain trade and supplies are now daily poured into the districts about Deolee, in a manner which they never were before. But below the surface there is still much misery and suffering. The cultivator, always more or less in debt, is now irretrievably so. His cattle, his household, all are gone, and as with the individual, so with the State. Many long years must elapse ere the country can recover the losses it has sustained. But let us hope that the famine has not been without its lessons, and that it has taught at least some of the Native Governments the fallacy of the desire which would prohibit export of produce by proving to them that no State or tract of country can stand or fall alone. It has certainly done one thing. It has secured for us the gratitude and attachment of thousands of the subjects of Foreign States, who but for us would have perished miserably, and the respect of the better classes, who have watched with admiration the humane measures which have been adopted to mitigate suffering and provide relief.

B O O N D E E.

The Maharao Raja.

23. The death of the Maharao Raja's only son in the prime of life and full of promise, an event which occurred in November 1868, has affected the whole course of His Highness' life. The numerous festivals which mark the calendar of every Rajpoot Court have been dispensed with, and a gloom has fallen over the Palace which nothing seems to dispel,—a gloom which has been deepened by the continued illness of another member of the family, to whom as the partner and adviser of a long and eventful life His Highness is much attached. These afflictions, coming as they have done at an advanced time of life on a mind predisposed by habit and inclination to retirement, have had the effect of withdrawing the Maharao Raja from public life, while the loss during the year of his two oldest and most valued Ministers has tended to raise a distaste for State affairs, which do not now enjoy the same interest and attention as formerly.

Birth of a son and heir.

The birth of a son and heir, though a subject of great pleasure to the Maharao Raja, and of rejoicing throughout Boondée, has not served to dissipate the sadness prevailing. The Prince was born on the 27th September last, and has received the name of Rughobeer Singh.

24. The two Ministers referred to were Bohra Jeewun Lall, who had been for 24 years the Chief Executive Officer of the State, and Nundram Dhabhace, an equally old servant, who had succeeded him in office in June 1868. The former died in September, the latter in October, last.

State Officials.

25. The office of Minister has not since been filled up. It was pressed by the Maharao Raja on Bohra Imrut Lall, a brother of Jeewun Lall, who without office occupies a position of influence as adviser, but was declined. The duties are now carried on by Chowdree Ghassee Lall, who has further been entrusted with the charge of the finances. I

have not had an opportunity of meeting this official, but report describes him as an able man. Chumpa Lall, a second brother of Bohra Jeewun Lall, continues to preside as heretofore over the Civil and Criminal Courts.

Crime.

26. Measures for the suppression of crime are very defective in Boondee, but while theft and robberies are common, more serious offences are rare.

The Jail.

27. Jail accommodation, too, is disgracefully bad, and formed the subject of an earnest remonstrance by the Agent of the Governor-General on his visit to the capital. The quarters occupied by the prisoners consist of a court-yard 26 feet long by 28 broad, with an open corridor $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, and are, from their position in the heart of a crowded quarter of the town and their restricted area, quite unfitted for a place of confinement. They were filthily dirty, and the prisoners, when first visited, were fettered and ironed very severely. One, a Bheel, who had on several occasions all but effected his escape, was loaded with chains weighing 24lbs. The condition of some other prisoners incarcerated at the City Kotwallie was almost equally bad. These abuses the Maharao Raja has promised to rectify, and from the manner in which His Highness has latterly taken up the matter, I believe him to be in earnest. A building in an open suburb to the south of the town, consisting of a spacious court-yard 107 feet long by 84 broad, with corridors $13\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, has been selected for a new jail, and is at present undergoing such alterations and repairs as are necessary to convert it into a place of imprisonment. In the meanwhile the present Jail is to be kept scrupulously clean.

The Courts.

28. The Judicial Courts at the capital are satisfactorily conducted. The proceedings and files are in Hindee, and the judgments passed bear inspection favourably. Justice, though rudely administered, is always obtainable,—a fact vouched for by the people of neighbouring States.

The Administration.

29. Whatever credit or discredit attaches to the administration must rest with the Maharao Raja. Despotism as all Native Governments are, there is none, perhaps, in which every question receives the special attention of the Chief as at Boondee. Hitherto His Highness has been equal to the strain, and it will be a matter for regret should failing health or energy compel him to give in. His Highness' character has been more than once referred to by my predecessor. That he is opposed to our way of thought and action, and, owing to a natural suspiciousness of temperament, distrusts our motives, there can be no question. Still there are not many better and few as good Rulers. No one is bullied in Boondee; the people are content, and in Native opinion no Chief in Rajpootana bears so high a reputation.

Debt to Agency Treasurer.

30. In the last Report of this Agency the difficulty experienced in getting the Durbar to liquidate the amount due to the Agency

Treasurer on account of compensatory awards decreed by the Haraootee International Court and paid upon our security was referred to. This matter has, I am glad to report, been lately settled by His Highness paying off the interest, which had accrued, and agreeing to liquidate the principal by half-yearly instalments of Rupees 20,000. This, owing to the loss incurred by the famine, was as much as the limited revenues of the State would admit of. The debt amounted in all to about Rupees 75,000, and had been accumulating since 1861.

Kotah and Deolee Road.

31. It gives me much pleasure to add that His Highness has further agreed to construct a good fair weather road through his territories from Deolee, *via* Boondee, to Kotah, and to contribute jointly with other States to the maintenance of a small Office establishment for the Haraootee International Court, the duties of which it has been found necessary to separate from those of the Agency. The latter will be but a trifling monthly charge, but the fact that it is the first occasion on which the Boondee Durbar has consented to support an innovation makes it one deserving of notice.

The famine.

32. Boondee has suffered severely during the famine. Measures were early adopted by the Durbar to import a sufficiency of grain from Central India and Kotah. Still a scarcity of food was more or less experienced throughout the year. Distress and suffering were everywhere very severe, more especially at Boondee itself. Emigration in a measure relieved the districts. At the capital 400lbs. of grain were distributed every day to the poor by the Durbar, while the Sahookars and Seths formed a fund which gave 1lb. of grain daily to each indigent person.

General health.

33. Cholera in the hot weather and fever in the autumn carried off large numbers of the population. Of the cattle, it is stated, two-thirds have perished.

The harvest.

34. The outturn of the rain-crop, owing to the limited area sown and the damage caused by locusts, was estimated at little more than half the ordinary amount. The spring harvest, however, was in most parts of the State above the average.

KOTAH.

35. It is with regret that I find myself unable to report favourably on the condition of affairs in this State, the largest and most important connected with the Agency.

The Maharao.

36. The Maharao takes little or no interest in the administration, appears but seldom in public, and often for long intervals is inaccessible to any one. As His Highness is at the same time suspicious of his Ministers, and unwilling to delegate to them the authority which he

will not exercise himself, important matters which are considered to require his orders fail to meet with attention. This extends to the work connected with the Agency. References even of the most ordinary nature are either ignored entirely, or obtain replies after months of delay. So serious had the evil become at the commencement of the year as to interfere with the action of the International Court, and my predecessor was compelled to intimate that, should its requisitions continue to be systematically disregarded, he would be obliged to take measures to vindicate its authority. Matters have since, I regret to say, taken but little change for the better.

Unsatisfactory state of affairs.

37. At Kotah, Courts of Justice, Courts of Appeal, and Offices of all kinds exist. Some do so only in name. The others are notoriously venal, and as their decisions are seldom, if ever, enforced, and can be set aside on application to any one of influence, they command no respect. Every one attached to the Court, the Ranees or the principal Ministers, is above the law; while all in power consider themselves entitled to right their own wrongs. The weak go to the wall. Crime is general; redress not obtainable. The result is the decline of the State and the decay of its trade.

The late Minister.

38. In February last the chief Minister, Sah Gunnessh Lall, who had held office since the accession to power of the present Maharao in the beginning of 1866, died. Owing partly to a certain force of character and partly to the indolence of the Chief, he had been permitted tacitly to acquire almost entire authority in the State and the uncontrolled direction of its finances. His relations with his master were based on a full knowledge of the character he had to deal with. The Maharao was not troubled with unpleasant references, but left undisturbed to follow the life he desired to lead. Whatever funds he required, no matter the amount or the time of year, were always forthcoming.

In most Native principalities officials are aware that sooner or later pressure will be brought to bear on them with a view to make them disgorge what they are supposed to have amassed during their tenure of office. They act accordingly, taking care to lay by sufficient to meet the demand, which will inevitably be made, and also to allow of a provision for themselves. Gunnessh Lall was no exception to his class, but he did his utmost to prevent others from defrauding the State. The prodigal expenditure of the late Maharao's reign was cut down, establishments which existed only on paper were swept away, the charges and cost of each department were estimated, and villages yielding an income equal thereto allotted to each. On the people he was hard and unyielding, selling them out of house and home to realize the amount of the Government demand. But here anything commendable or excusable in his administration stopped. As a private individual his charities were princely, and distributed as a rule at distant shrines, and not at Kotah, where they would have excited remark. His death was a severe blow to the Maharao, and precipitated an attack of illness which was impending. His place His Highness has been unable to fill, there being admittedly no men of ordinary ability at Kotah. In the meanwhile the duties of the office are being conducted jointly by two officials.

Violent crime.

39. With such a Government it is not surprising that violent crime should be common. A remonstrance addressed on the subject by this Office in September last resulted in the institution of a number of Thannahs or Police posts. Their presence, however, does not appear to have effected much change for the better, as during my stay at Kotah several robberies and dacoitees, some accompanied with loss of life, occurred, in one the perpetrators being tracked to one of the posts.

40. In the hope of being able to do some good, I remained at the capital a considerable portion of the cold weather. The Maharao I found most friendly, and in private intercourse I laboured earnestly to secure His Highness' attention to the unsatisfactory state of matters obtaining, but, I regret to say, without success. The only hope for the State appears to me to be in the appointment of a good Minister, to whom the Chief will consent to give his confidence, and His Highness informs me he is really in search of one.

Vexatious checks to traders and travellers.

41. There are few States in which travellers and traders are subjected to such vexatious treatment as in Kotah. At every place, under every plea, charges are levied. Some of these are authorized; others are exacted by the State servants on their own behalf. But the greatest difficulty is at the River Chumbul, which no one is allowed to cross from either bank without special permission, and where parties are, in consequence, detained for days.

School at the Capital.

42. In the last Report of this Agency it was stated that the Chief had sanctioned an expenditure of Rupees 400 per mensem for the establishment of a good school at the capital, which, it was hoped, would be opened shortly. Nevertheless, on reaching Kotah in December last, I found no action had been taken in the matter. A recent khureeta informs me that a building has now been set apart for the purpose, and that arrangements are in progress for securing the services of competent teachers. I hope, therefore, a beginning has at last been made.

The Kotree Fiefs.

43. The relations between the Durbar and its Kotree Fiefs have continued in much the same unsatisfactory state as heretofore. During the year the Maharao took possession of the village of Poosode, belonging to the Chief of Peepulda, on the pretext that it had been bestowed by the Dowager Thakooranee on her granddaughter, one of his Ranees. The mediation of this Office has, however, obtained its restoration.

Indurgurh.

44. The Maharaja of Indurgurh, the first of these Chieftains, is presently absent on a pilgrimage to Hurdwar. The school he established last year at Indurgurh is progressing satisfactorily.

History of the famine.

45. The history of the famine in Kotah is one I approach with reluctance. The account given of the state of matters at the capital

by the Sahookars and Seths and the Agents of Foreign Banking firms is almost incredible. It represents the chief town of a country amply supplied with grain, suffering all the horrors of actual scarcity and want owing to the inhuman action of the late Minister. This person on the first signs of dearth is said to have collected all the grain of the State, to have held it back till prices had risen, and then to have allowed it into the market by small dribblets.

The Capital.

The plenty for which Haraootee is synonymous attracted thousands from other States, and for many months the capital was besieged with crowds, who were not, however, admitted into it. Relief works would have mitigated much suffering, but although promises were made, nothing was done. To alleviate the distress the Durbar distributed 850lbs. of grain daily at different places both inside and outside the city; but owing to the mismanagement prevailing, much of this, it is stated, never reached those for whom it was intended. The late Minister, too, gave away 450lbs. of food daily, while the mahajun classes privately and publicly dispensed relief on a liberal scale. Nevertheless, distress and want were very severe.

46. In the cold weather there was still a considerable degree of destitution among the lower classes; and it gives me pleasure to say that to provide employment the Durbar sanctioned the repair of the small burial-ground attached to the Agency and the construction of a metalled road through the town to the Palace. The former is now a pretty English garden; the latter is in progress.

The districts.

47. The rural population suffered comparatively little. In such of the villages as are held in contract, or in liquidation of debts, they were considerably treated and assisted, it being the object of the holders to prevent them deserting their homes. But in those directly under Raj management no remissions were granted, and not only was the ordinary Government demand exacted, but also an extra 10 per cent., which, first levied in 1866 to defray the expenses of the Maharao's presence at the Viceregal Durbar, had been maintained ever since.

General health.

48. While, then, actual famine was not nearly so severe in Kotah as in the more northerly States, disease was, perhaps, more so. Cholera in June and July and fever in the winter months made dreadful havoc among the population.

49. With all the beauty of its position the capital has long been noted for its unhealthiness. This is in a measure due to the crowded nature of its area and the insalubrity of its site, but is chiefly attributable to the absence of the most primary rules of sanitation and cleanliness. At the commencement of the year under review it contained a population estimated at 100,000 souls. Of these, it is calculated 15,000 have died of cholera, fever, and destitution. Of the large number of foreigners who perished, no account can, of course, be formed. The districts suffered in a less degree.

The harvests.

50. Both the crops of the year were above the average, more especially the rain one. Locusts appeared at different times, but did little damage. The number of cattle which perished is estimated at upwards of one-half.

Non-fulfilment of its promises regarding the export of grain.

51. I regret I am compelled to state that the Durbar has not carried out the determination it professed to have made last year, of withdrawing the restrictions on the export of grain from its territories.

JHALLAWAR.

52. I can heartily endorse my predecessor's opinion as to the cordial feeling entertained by the Maharaj Rana towards the British Government and the very friendly spirit in which all our relations with His Highness are carried on.

The Maharaj Rana's exertions in the famine.

53. The assistance rendered by the Maharaj Rana in supplying the cantonment and civil station of Deolee with grain have already been referred to. These and similar exertions, as also the humane measures adopted by His Highness to afford relief and employment to the poor of his own and other States who flocked into his territories, have received the acknowledgments of both Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India, and deserve prominent mention here.

Relief measures.

54. The total cost of relief operations exceeded Rupees 80,000, of which nearly 30,000 were expended in the cooked food distributed daily.

The crops.

55. Jhallawar happily did not fall within the famine circle. The rain crop was much above the average; the spring one quite equal to it.

56. Opium, however, which is the principal produce of the State, has, I regret to report, yielded but one-third of the usual outturn.

Opium Agency at Jhalra Patun.

57. All action in regard to the establishment of an Opium Agency at Jhalra Patun, which the Maharaj Rana desired to have, has been for the present deferred owing to the non-success of the new scales opened elsewhere.

Administration of Justice.

58. The administration of justice in this State is not so satisfactory as it might be. Judicial Courts certainly exist, but their action must, from what I saw, be limited. This, doubtless, in a measure arises from the dislike evinced by all Native Chiefs to abrogate what they consider to be an important portion of their personal authority, a dislike encouraged by their Executive Ministers, who jealously oppose any measure antagonistic to the concentration of every function of power in themselves.

As in other matters, this subject had only to be brought to the notice of the Maharaj Rana to meet with his attention. Before leaving Patun, His Highness assured me of his determination to place these Courts on a proper footing and to grant them a greater measure of independence and free action. A reform which would further tend to increase their usefulness and influence would be the substitution of Hindee for the Persian Oordoo, in which the proceedings are now carried on and the records kept.

A new Jail.

59. The Maharaj Rana has also intimated a desire to erect a new Jail on the principle of those in our own provinces, with workshops and other accommodation to allow of intramural labour; and the matter is now receiving attention. The present Jail is a low rectangular enclosure, clean and airy, but, from its position in the middle of the cantonment, in which the Maharaj Rana and his Court reside, unfitted for the object to which it is devoted. Jhallawar is the only State connected with this Agency in which any attempt is made to utilise convicts by making them labour.

The School at the Capital.

60. The establishment of a School in the cantonment has fully redeemed His Highness' promise of last year. English, Persian, Sanscrit, and Hindee Classes are now held in a building which has been assigned for the purpose until a regular School-house can be erected. The attendance, considering the short period the institution has been in existence, is considerable, and the interest taken in it by the Maharaj Rana, several of the members of whose household attend regularly, promises to make it successful.

Lease of villages for five years.

61. During the year a considerable proportion of the villages of the State have been leased in contract for a period of five years. The leases were in the first instance offered to the zemindars themselves, and, when not taken up by them, to the public. It was anticipated that, on the remainder of the State being given out in a similar manner, there would be an increase of upwards of $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs annually in the land revenue.

Finances and debts.

62. The disbursements of the State are still in excess of receipts. This is owing in a measure to the Maharaj Rana's liberal disposition and personal expenditure. His Highness, in referring to the subject, which he himself introduced, frankly admitted the necessity for retrenchment and his intention to carry it out. As yet he has not succeeded in effecting such a settlement of the State debts as he desires. These liabilities are considerable, and, as stated in last Report, His Highness is anxious to consolidate and liquidate them in a fixed period.

TONK.

63. A separate Report on this State by Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Blair, the Assistant Agent of the Governor-General on Special Duty, is herewith submitted.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Blair.

64. This officer has in the brief interval of his deputation to Tonk succeeded in winning the confidence of the young Nawab and the leading members of the Administration. His approaching transfer, therefore, to another appointment just when he has become acquainted with its affairs, is a serious misfortune to the Durbar.

The famine.

65. Of the six detached districts of which the State is composed, only the two northerly ones of Tonk and Allygurh came within the famine circle. In both destitution and suffering were very severe, more especially at the capital, which was thronged with the poor of the districts and the circumadjacent territory of Jeypore. To the provident care of the late Captain J. Blair in importing grain and assisting others to do so is due the fact that there was a sufficiency of food throughout the year.

Relief measures.

To his energetic action also are to be ascribed the relief works which were maintained as long as distress lasted. These were planned and laid out by him, and, as has been already stated in a former portion of this Report, were carried on on a very liberal scale, the necessary funds being obtained by a loan of a lakh of rupees from the Government of India. Employment was as long as possible provided on irrigation works, as remunerative to the State and as offering the labour best adapted to the classes to be supported. Six tanks were thus constructed in the Tonk Pergunnah, chiefly in the vicinity of the capital, and four in Allygurh. Many thousands were supported daily on these works during the hot weather months. On the setting in of the rains labour was found in the making of roads in and about Tonk itself. Those employed were paid in grain, the allowances ranging from $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per man to $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. per child. Tuccavee advances were also made to the landowners and larger jaghiredars of both districts for the construction of wells, tanks, and embankments, and afforded employment to the village poor. For the relief of the weak, the aged, and infirm, who were incapable of maintaining themselves, an Alms House was organized at the capital, supported by private subscriptions, supplemented by monthly grants from the Durbar. Out branches in the suburbs assisted in dispensing the relief. Lastly, a distribution of cooked food was made daily to strangers and casual poor, the charity being limited to one day's relief. I much regret that time does not allow of my awaiting the receipt of Returns of the numbers employed and maintained and the cost of relief. Some idea, however, of what was done may be formed from the following items in the Statement of disbursements for the Fuslee year 1276, ending June last, as furnished by Colonel C. Blair:—

| | | | | <i>Rupees.</i> |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| Tanks and other works | ... | ... | ... | 57,158 |
| Roads | ... | ... | ... | 9,449 |
| Alms House | ... | ... | ... | 11,295 |
| Tuccavee advances | ... | ... | ... | 16,313 |
| Total | | | | Rs. 94,215 |

Under the Ex-Nawab a very handsome quarter of the town, termed Allygunj, had been planned and partially constructed, every person of substance in Tonk being compelled to build a house in it of the same form and design. These the owners were now incited to complete, and notice was taken of such as did so. In this way every measure which could be theorised was put in force to relieve the sufferings of the poor. Nevertheless, want, misery, and death were very general through the greater part of 1869.

General health.

66. Cholera, though hanging about the capital and districts for upwards of two months, was not so severe as elsewhere, and it was only in the months succeeding the rains, when fever set in, that the population suffered. Casualties from actual want were, owing to the relief measures adopted, mainly confined to strangers, who found their way to the capital in the last stages of weakness and emaciation. The official Return of deaths which occurred throughout the year in the one district of Tonk, as furnished me by the State, exhibits a total of 17,614. Taking the population at 112,634 souls, as estimated by the late Captain Blair in his Report for 1867-68, the mortality was 15 per cent.

Mortality among cattle.

67. Two-thirds of the entire cattle of the districts are stated to have perished. That this has been the case is corroborated by the Returns received from the adjoining Meena districts.

The harvests.

68. Owing to the prescribed area sown, both harvests of the year were below the average. This was more particularly the case with the rain crop, which was in parts damaged by locusts.

NIMBAHERA.

69. In Nimbahera, the only other Tonk district in Rajpootana, grain was dear and scarce, but there was none of the distress and want experienced further north. Of the three districts in Central India, Seronge is stated to have suffered severely from cholera.

Investment of the Nawab with power.

70. On the 1st January last the Nawab was invested with the government of the State.

The Regency Council.

71. The temporary administration which then came to a close had been conducted by a Council of Regency, composed, with one exception, of members of the Nawab's own family. It had extended over a period of two years, and had been a successful and a vigorous one. The Members of the Council in their collective capacity and in their executive charges had worked harmoniously and well, meeting the suggestions made by the Assistant Agent with willing and ready attention. Their position generally had been one of very considerable difficulty, bringing them, as it sometimes necessarily did, in antagonism to their future Ruler.

Sahibzada Hafiz Ibadoolla Khan.

This was more especially the case with the President of the Council, Sahibzada Hafiz Ibadoolla Khan, who, as the head of the Administration, had to accept the responsibility and odium of all that was done. While striving not to give offence to his Chief, he loyally endeavoured to fulfil the trust committed to him by us, and I have much pleasure in bringing the services he has thus at our request rendered to his country to the notice of Government for such acknowledgment as may be deemed necessary.

The Nawab.

72. During the year the Nawab has made considerable progress in his studies, and can now read and write fairly. He is intelligent and quick, and, being naturally of a good disposition, is amenable to advice.

Appointment of Sahibzada Ibadoolla Khan as Minister.

73. His Highness has, I am glad to report, begun his reign well. He has been anxious, perhaps, to reward those to whom he is attached, but this is not to be wondered at, the possession of power to a young man being nothing without its exercise. To assist him in the administration of affairs, he has appointed his uncle, Sahibzada Ibadoolla Khan, Minister, with the title of "Naib." I quite concur with Colonel C. Blair in the favourable estimate he has formed of the Sahibzada's character, and in the opinion that, with the exception of Sahibzada Ibadoolla Khan, the selection was the best which could have been made. He is young, well educated, and possessed of much intelligence and ability quickened by travel. It was natural that a young Chief should desire to choose as his deputy a man who from age and disposition could enter into and share his feelings and aspirations, and I am hopeful that, with the exercise of care and prudence, the Sahibzada's tenure of office will be conducive of much benefit both to the Nawab and the State. In the late Council, of which he was a Member, he had the reputation of being a hard-working man of business, and he brings with him a good knowledge of the State and its administration to assist him in his onerous duties. His sympathies are all for progress, and he has already initiated several reforms.

The Finances.

74. A clear and detailed account of the finances is given by the Assistant Agent. The exceptional nature of the seasons has upset all calculations, and Rupees 34,000 have had to be struck off the land revenue of 1868-69, while large outstanding balances have still to be collected. The Budget Estimate for the current year will, for the same reason, I fear, be found to have been much too favourable. Should this prove to be the case, care and attention will be required to guide the State through the crisis.

Retrospect.

75. It is unfortunate that so severe a calamity as the famine should have afflicted the country during our brief management, and rendered it impossible for us to carry out in their entirety the schemes we had sketched out for fulfilment. But if this has not been permitted to us, owing to causes over which we had no control, our temporary

administration has enabled us, under Providence, to bring the State through a period of unparalleled distress and suffering in a measure unscathed and with its people preserved to it.

The Mogheas.

76. The preventive measures adopted by the late Captain J. Blair for reclaiming the Mogheas of the Nimbahera District by offering them an opportunity of earning an honest livelihood and enforcing the responsibility of their head-men have not been so successful as was anticipated. This is attributed to the facilities afforded by the country and its officials for a robber life. "The territories of Scindia, Meywar, and Tonk not only meet at Nimbahera, but are so intermingled, that a few miles' run brings a fugitive from one State into asylum in another,"* while the want of unity displayed by the local officers prevents anything like systematic action.

I am informed (and it is not improbable) that their numbers have been further increased during the year by immigration from Marwar. I fear therefore no change for the better can be expected until operations against the tribe, no matter in what State its members are located, are entrusted to a British officer.

77. I regret the Assistant Agent is unable to give a good report of the school established at the capital in 1868. The Nawab, however, promises me that such will not be the case at the close of the year.

SHAHPOORA.

78. It may not be out of place if I preface the first Report on this State with a few general remarks regarding the country and its Chief.

The reigning family.

79. The Rajas of Shahpoora are a branch of the reigning family of Meywar, descended from Sooruj Mull, the third son of Maharana Amar Singh. About the middle of the seventeenth century Soojan Singh, the second in descent, obtained the "Chowrassee" of Phoolia, a territorial division of the Crown appanage of Ajmere, from the Emperor of Delhi, as a reward for faithful and gallant service. Estates were subsequently conferred on and wrested by the family in Meywar, but of these only a portion now remains in its possession. The Chief, who is entitled Raja Dhiraj, is thus a feudatory of both the British Government and the Meywar Durbar.

Terms under which the possessions under Government are held.

80. The incidents of his tenure as regards his territories under the former are defined by a Sunnud granted in 1848. This document fixes his tribute at Imperial Rupees 10,000 per annum, subject to a proviso that, should he be called on at any time to abolish custom duties, it will be reduced to Rupees 2,000, and maintains to him independent jurisdiction, save in heinous crimes, involving the punishment of death or imprisonment for life, which are to be decided with the advice of the British Representative.

81. The terms on which the Meywar fief is held are thus given by Tod :—

* Vide Tonk Report for 1868-69, paragraph 35.

"Terms under which the Meywar Fief is held.

"The Chief has his grant renewed and receives the khillut of investiture, and is exempt from all but personal attendance at his Prince's Court and the local service of the district in which his estates are situated." He pays an annual tribute of Chittoree Rupees 3,200 to the Durbar, but exercises independent jurisdiction.

THE BRITISH DISTRICT OF PHOOLIA.

Area.

82. According to the measurements effected by the Hon'ble Mr. Cavendish in 1829, the pergunnah of Phoolia consists of 403,778 beegas of 180 feet square, or about 470 square miles. Of these, 6.5 per cent. were then described as under cultivation, 53.6 as culturable, 30.4 as non-culturable, and 9.5 as alienated.

Calculated, however, by the Government Map of Rajpootana, the area of the district is under 400 square miles.

Natural and physical characteristics.

83. The country, though flat, open, and treeless, is very fertile, the soil being composed of a mixture of black alluvium and sand, the former largely predominating. Water, save to the north, where the district is intersected by the Kharee and Mansee Nuddes, is met with only at a considerable depth. Cultivation is therefore dependent mainly on tanks, for which the ground, owing to its undulating surface, is peculiarly adapted. There are altogether 433 of these useful works and 4,131 wells. Indian corn and barley form the staple produce of the country, one-fifth of which is computed to be under cultivation. The remainder consists of rich grass lands, which, prior to the famine, used to support the thousands of horned cattle which formed the principal wealth of the villagers.

Villages and Land Revenue.

84. The "Chowrassee" or 84 villages have now increased to 107, their distribution and estimated revenue being given as follows:—

| | | | | | | ANNUAL REVENUE. | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | | | Chittoree Rupees. | Shahpoora Rupees. |
| | | | | | | Number. | |
| Crown | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34 | 92,826 | 10,000 |
| Ranees | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 | 21,500 | |
| Kinsmen | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 | 29,600 | |
| Jaghire | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31 | 56,950 | |
| Court favourites and Ministers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 10,300 | |
| Religious grants | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 | 15,000 | |
| Fields, wells given to officials and favourites | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 50,000 | |
| Total | | | | | 107 | 2,76,626 | 10,000 |

or about Imperial Rupees 2,27,969.

Population.

85. In February last I had a rough census of the district taken with a view to ascertaining the effects of the famine. This duty was partially performed by enumerators deputed for the purpose, and partly by the local officers. No special day was fixed, and the work occupied several weeks.

The results of so rude a procedure cannot of course be accurate; still they may be regarded as an approximation sufficiently correct for all practical purposes.

By this census the population stood as follows:—

| | THE ENTIRE PER-GUNNAH. | | THE CAPITAL ONLY. | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| | Souls. | Houses. | Souls. | Houses. | Shops. |
| At the commencement of 1868 | 46,786 | 8,624 | 13,050 | 2,563 | 300 |
| Ditto ditto of 1870 | 35,771 | 7,355 | 10,637 | 2,349 | 250 |

The rural population is entirely Hindoo; that of the capital is composed of the following castes;—

| | | |
|----------------------|------|-----------|
| Brahmins | 12·5 | per cent. |
| Mahajuns | 16·7 | do. |
| Other Hindoos | 37·5 | do. |
| Mahomedans | 33·3 | do. |

The majority of the Mahomedans are Kaim Khanees, a race of proselytized Rajpoots who were originally introduced from Shekawattee, and now form the bulk of the infantry.

These results are at variance with the estimated population entered in existing notices of the State, which I observe to be 100,000. The scantiness now exhibited is accounted for by the fact that, owing to mal-government, the district has annually been deserted by a greater or less number of families.

Land revenue and amount of Government demand.

86. The land revenue is realized chiefly in produce and in a lesser degree in coin. The rates of money assessment are as follows:—

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Sugar-cane, opium, and vegetables ... | from Rs. 5 6 0 to Rs. 10 12 1 | per acre. |
| Cotton, indigo, and Indian corn | „ „ 1 9 6 to „ 10 2 1 | „ „ |
| Wheat and barley (levied only in some six villages) | „ „ 2 11 0 to „ 8 1 1 | „ „ |

On the majority of these crops supplementary imposts are further exacted.

On jowar, bajra, moong, mote, and koont the Government demand ranges from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the outturn, and on barley, wheat, and gram from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$. On rice $\frac{1}{2}$ is taken.

Other sources of income.

87. The other principal items of receipt are customs, at present farmed for Shahpoora Rupees 21,400; contributions from Jaghiredars, a fixed item of Chittoree Rupees 12,392; and fines which aggregate about Chittoree Rupees 5,000 annually.

THE MEYWAR DISTRICT OF KACHOWLA.

Number of villages and land revenue.

88. The Kachowla Pergunnah, as the Meywar Fief is locally styled, consists of 74 villages held and estimated as follows:—

| | | | | | No. | Annual revenue in Chittoree Rupees. |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Crown | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43 | 33,250 |
| Jaghire and kinsmen | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 | 10,025 |
| Religious grants | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 | 1,300 |
| Court favourites and Ministers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 1,325 |
| Total | | | | | 74 | 45,900 |

Population.

89. In 1868 a census was taken by order of the Meywar Durbar.

The district was then found to contain 3,155 houses and a population of 17,396 souls. Of these, owing to death and emigration, only 2,705 houses and 15,550 souls now remain.

Items of receipt and total income.

90. The income is estimated at Chittoree Rupees 43,000 (or Rupees 34,404 Imperial), and is made up of land revenue, contributions from Jaghiredars, Rupees 1,655, "Bhoom Burriar," a quit-rent, Rupees 3,100, and fines, Rupees 5,000.

Export dues.

91. The Chief levies export duty only, the right to other dues being the prerogative of the Meywar Government alone.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Troops.

92. About 100 horsemen and 400 infantry are maintained in the two districts. A portion of the latter are quartered in the nine small forts of the State, and in the posts along the principal lines of communication. The Jaghiredars are also bound to keep up certain quotas for service, amounting in all to some 400. There are further about 300 foot and 60

horsemen, formed of the Bhoomias of the Meywar Fief and of a class of Rajpoots, Meenas, and Naicks, who, under the name of "Chouth Buttaees," hold lands either free or on a diminished rent for service when required.

Ordnance.

The ordnance of the State consists of one mortar and 22 guns. Of the latter, five brass and two iron are heavy and 12 brass and three iron light; five heavy and 10 light are either mounted or in position. As elsewhere, there are doubtless others buried.

The Currency.

93. There are two currencies prevalent in the State, the Gear-sanee and the Chittoree. The former is manufactured at a mint in the capital, and may be styled the national coinage. Its average value is $10\frac{1}{2}$ annas Imperial currency. It prevails only at Shahpoora and two or three of the larger villages of the Phoolia Pergunnah. The latter is struck at Chittore in Meywar, and is the mercantile medium. At the capital it is used in all transactions in Europe and country cloths and in bills and hoondees. It is further the common tender in all the villages of the State.

Roads.

94. The principal local roads are those from Bheelwarra *viâ* Shahpoora to Kekree, and from Shahpoora to Jehazpore. For some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles the Nusseerabad and Mhow Road, an Imperial Line, falls within the State.

Administration of Justice.

95. The administration of justice has hitherto been very defective owing partly to the system in force and partly to the opposition evinced by the Jaghiredars and Ranees to any interference in their estates. Throughout the Phoolia District the Killehdars of the several forts exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction in the villages attached to their trusts, and forward such cases as they think fit to the capital. These are disposed of by the Kamdar. The Kâchowla District is administered by a Hakim, from whom an appeal lies to the Durbar. In 1868, at the special instance of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, distinct Civil and Criminal Courts were established and a Jail commenced. For the former natives of our provinces were entertained, but the Courts have as yet existed only in name, the Kamdar, as previously, reserving to himself judicial as well as executive functions.

Jail.

96. At present there is no Jail, prisoners being confined in some sheds in the precincts of the Palace.

NARRATIVE OF EVENTS.

97. At the period when this sketch opens the condition of affairs in the Chiefship was very unsatisfactory. The Raja took neither part nor

interest in the administration, which he left entirely in the hands of the Kamdar. The State was embarrassed with heavy debts: complaints of misrule were rife, and the Thakoors discontented and alienated. I accordingly proceeded to Shahpoora at as early a date as my other duties would admit; and had hardly entered it when news reached me that the Raja had expired on the 2nd November. Almost simultaneously I received a khureeta from the Chief, bearing date the 1st idem, acquainting me that he was seriously ill, and had adopted a son of the Thakoor of Beshnia as his heir. On my arrival at the capital, the accounts given me of what had passed were most suspicious. No one professed to know aught of the adoption save the Kamdar,—a household serf styled the foster-brother, who had been the late Chief's boon companion, and their creatures. A detailed Report of the enquiry instituted was submitted in the letter cited on the margin.

No. 630-14P., dated 11th December 1869.

The conclusions I arrived at, which were subsequently concurred in by the Meywar Durbar, were that the adoption had not been the work of the Raja, and that Nahar Singh, son of the Thakoor of Dhunnope, was, as belonging to the family next-of-kin, the rightful heir to the Chiefship. In the meanwhile the Kamdar had resigned on the plea of illness, and the four Oomraos or principal Nobles had been selected as a Council to administer the State pending the receipt of the orders of Government in the case. Ere these could be received, a claim was preferred to the guddee on behalf of the posthumous son of a member of another branch of the family, born in the beginning of February. The proofs advanced in support were so strong, that I was compelled to solicit that orders might be deferred pending a further local enquiry. The result of this investigation, as reported in the communication marginally quoted, was to establish the right of the Dhunnope family to be considered the next-of-kin, and as such the heirs to the Chiefship. The question is now under the consideration of Government.

No. 253-8P., dated 31st March 1870.

quoted, was to establish the right of the Dhunnope family to be considered the next-of-kin, and as such the heirs to the Chiefship. The question is now under the consideration of Government.

Financial condition of the State.

98. Endeavours were early made to reduce the expenditure and to master the financial condition of the State. Owing, however, to the manner in which the accounts had been kept, the confusion in which they were found, and the complications caused by receipts and disbursements being entered in three currencies of different and ever-varying value, the latter was not for some time possible. Even when finally rendered, the statements were of little use in showing the actual income or expenditure under any head. Items of the most opposite nature were lumped in one, while the cost of each establishment was charged to three and four different Offices. Dancing-girls were paid with troops, and strictly private entered with public expenditure. The older debts were in course of liquidation under a settlement effected by Colonel Lloyd, by which they were to be paid off in ten years, during the first half of which five per cent. interest was to be chargeable.

99. By existing arrangements, the principal creditors, an Ajmere Firm, are also the Potedar or Banking Agency of the State. They receive all income, and advance what funds are required at 14 per cent. interest.

Receipts and Disbursements.

100. The Appendices marked A. and B. are statements of the receipts and disbursements of the last four years. They exhibit the average ordinary income as Chittoree Rupees 1,75,602-14-5, and the average ordinary expenditure as Rupees 1,59,069-4-5. During this period Rupees 6,92,937-14-3 were paid in the liquidation of debts and interest, and Rupees 6,04,707-14-6 obtained as advances from the Fotedar.

Debts.

101. The debts amount in all to about Chittoree Rupees 2,61,713 (or about Rupees 2,09,000 Imperial). Of several no accounts are forthcoming.

It is evident, therefore, that much care and attention will be required to place the finances on a sound and satisfactory footing; and the subject will be the first to receive my attention on the recognition by Government of a successor. In the heir presumptive the State appears to be fortunate, as he is an intelligent young man, able to read and write; but the difficulty lies in securing a Kamdar of average ability and honesty. The present officials are as corrupt a body of men as I have met with, whose sole object seems to be to maintain the confusion on which they fatten.

Effects of the famine.

102. Shahpoora has, perhaps, suffered more during the past year than any other portion of the Agency. Within an interval of eighteen months, the British portion of the State lost 11,015 souls, or almost 25 per cent. of its population. Of these, only one-sixth emigrated. The severity of the epidemic of intermittent fever and scurvy, which followed the famine, may be gathered from the fact that one-half of the entire number, or 5,233 souls, are said to have perished from it in the last four months of 1869. No account can, of course, be given of the foreigners who died in the State during the year, but the number is said to have been very great. Of 79,937 horned cattle which were in the same district in July 1868, only 26,021, or 32 per cent., are now left. Of these, 1,312 were driven out of the country, while 52,604 perished. Estimating the latter at the low computation of Rupees 10 per head, the loss of these animals alone amounts to £52,600.

The harvests.

103. Both the rain and spring crops were much below the average. In the former only two-thirds of the usual area was sown; and of this locusts destroyed 20 per cent. In the latter, owing to the severe sickness prevailing, it was with difficulty that half of the amount usually brought under the plough could be cultivated. But even this was not effected till very late in the season, and as no rain fell at Christmas, the crop was a very poor one.

THE MEENA DISTRICTS.

104. It is with much satisfaction that I find myself enabled to report that no instance of serious crime has occurred within these districts during the trying year through which we have passed. Driven

well nigh to desperation as numbers were, it would not have been a subject for wonder had the once lawless population returned to their old pursuits; but, with the exception of petty thefts and robberies, the peace of the country has been unbroken.

Effects of the famine.

105. The following Table, based on the results of an enumeration I had specially taken in February last, exhibits the effects of the famine on the population and cattle of the districts:—

| STATE. | | POPULATION. | | | | | | CATTLE. | | | | |
|---------|-----|------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------|--------------------|
| | | No. of Villages. | Present in 1868. | LOSS DURING 1868-69. | | | Remaining in 1870. | Present in 1868. | LOSS DURING 1868-69. | | | Remaining in 1870. |
| | | | | By death. | By emigration. | Total. | | | By death. | By emigration. | Total. | |
| Meywar | ... | 20 | 7,995 | 1,530 | 235 | 1,765 | 6,230 | 15,878 | 10,791 | 282 | 11,073 | 4,815 |
| Jeypore | ... | 14 | 7,194 | 1,289 | 320 | 1,609 | 5,585 | 12,024 | 7,554 | 61 | 7,615 | 4,409 |
| Boondee | ... | 11 | 2,666 | 406 | 52 | 458 | 2,208 | 5,523 | 3,337 | 45 | 3,382 | 2,141 |
| Total | ... | 45 | 17,855 | 3,225 | 607 | 3,832 | 14,023 | 33,425 | 21,682 | 388 | 22,070 | 11,365 |

or a loss in little more than a year of 21 per cent. of the population and of 66 per cent. of the cattle. If we again estimate those of the latter which have perished at an average value of Rupees 10 per head, the loss will be £21,682.

The harvests.

106. The outturn of the rain crop was only about half the usual quantity. This was owing to the limited area sown and the damage caused by locusts. The spring harvest, however, was a fair one.

DEOLEE.

Agency School.

107. The Agency School established by Captain Bruce has continued to progress satisfactorily and to increase in numbers.

Ferry on the Bunnass.

108. The necessity for a ferry on the Bunnass River, to maintain communication between Deolee and Nusseerabad in the rainy season, had long been felt. During last monsoon all passage to and fro was completely barred for weeks at a time, and human life lost in the attempt to cross. The matter was accordingly brought to notice, and the establishment of a ferry has been sanctioned by the local Administration.

The number of cases instituted shows a considerable increase over that of previous years. This was doubtless caused by the strong temptation which existed for the commission of crime when the people were pinched by want and famine.

Separation of the duties of the International Court from those of the Agency.

110. During the year it was found necessary, owing to the increasing work devolving on the Agency Office, to arrange for the separate conduct of the duties appertaining to the Court. As any charge on this head was one which could not fairly be debited to Government, the several Durbars represented in the Court were asked to contribute jointly towards the maintenance of a small Office establishment. Replies have been received from the majority agreeing to do so, and I hope soon to receive a similar assent from the remainder. In the meanwhile the duties have been entirely separated, and with advantageous results. Cases are now tried by the Court *ab initio*, instead of as formerly, when all depositions were recorded in the presence of the Vakeels of the two States concerned, and the case only came before a full Court for judgment. The status of the members of the Court has also been raised by increased responsibility. They feel an interest and a pride in the work and their credit at stake in the manner in which it is performed. Efforts have further been made to introduce a reform in the desultory trials, which formerly extended over months, by insisting, as far as possible, on the production of all the parties and witnesses on the date the cases are called up for hearing.

TRANSIT OF GOVERNMENT MAILS AND POST OFFICES.

Absence of mail robberies.

111. Notwithstanding the exceptional nature of the year, no instance of mail robbery has occurred.

Jhalra Patun and Shajehanpore line.

112. It was at one time proposed to break up the postal line between Jhalra Patun and Shajehanpore on the Indore and Agra Road, and to connect the former with Neemuch. This idea, I am glad to learn, has been abandoned, as its effect would have been to make communication with Bombay several days longer, a matter of no small moment to a large commercial town.

Dispensaries.

113. These useful institutions being reported on separately by the Superintendent-General, it will suffice if I here record my opinion that they have worked successfully during the year. All have been visited during my cold weather tour. At Jhalra Patun it was particularly gratifying to witness the general esteem and confidence in which the Native Doctor, Mahomed Naeem Khan, was held by the Chief and residents, all of whom employ him.

114. The Native Doctor of the Agency was enabled to be of great service in ministering to the people at Shahpoora during the sickly period the camp was there, and subsequently during the cold weather tour.

(Sd.) W. J. W. Muir, *Capt.*,
Officiating Political Agent.

| SUMBUR 1925 (A.D. 1868). | | | | Total Income for the four years in Chittoree Rupees. |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Chittoree Rupees. | Shahpoora Rupees. | Imperial Rupees. | Total in Chittoree Rupees. | |
| Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| 27,818 11 3 | 11,448 15 9 | | 1,37,459 12 0 | |
| 12,687 12 0 | | | 12,687 12 0 | |
| | 23,825 0 0 | | 20,063 2 3 | |
| 0,784 15 6 | 11,043 15 6 | 1,768 15 6 | 21,296 5 7 | |
| 1,50,291 6 9 | 46,117 15 3 | 1,768 15 6 | 1,91,506 15 10 | 7,02,411 9 8 |
| 1,27,133 4 3 | 55,863 2 3 | 5,845 9 5 | 1,81,486 4 1 | 6,04,707 14 6 |
| 2,77,424 11 0 | 1,01,986 1 6 | 7,614 8 11 | 3,72,993 3 11 | 13,07,119 8 2 |

(Sd.) W. J. W. MUIR, *Capt.*,
Officiating Political Agent.

68).

| SUMMUT 1925 (A.D. 1868). | | | | | Total disbursements for the four years in Chittoree Rupees. |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Chittoree Rupees. | Shahpoora Rupees. | Imperial Rupees. | Total in Chittoree Rupees. | | |
| Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. |
| 12,775 0 0 | | | 12,775 0 0 | | |
| 17,080 11 9 | 41,747 12 9 | 2,871 0 9 | 58,351 14 2 | | |
| 2,856 2 3 | 3,666 4 6 | | 5,913 8 3 | | |
| 570 5 3 | 6,640 8 6 | 782 6 0 | 7,140 5 2 | | |
| 9,605 10 3 | 40,189 2 0 | | 43,419 1 9 | | |
| 11,709 0 0 | 18,438 11 6 | | 27,227 5 0 | | |
| 1,170 15 9 | 9,377 8 6 | 900 0 0 | 10,192 13 3 | | |
| 55,758 13 3 | 1,23,059 15 9 | 4,553 6 9 | 1,63,079 15 7 | 6,36,277 1 7 | |
| 1,79,213 0 0 | 32,316 0 0 | 3,312 0 0 | 1,10,591 12 0 | 4,92,937 14 3 | |
| 2,34,971 13 3 | 1,55,405 15 9 | 7,865 6 9 | 2,73,671 11 7 | 11,29,214 15 10 | |

(Sd.) W. J. W. MUIR, *Capt.*,
Officiating Political Agent.

TONK REPORT.

No. 45, dated 6th May 1870.

From—LIEUT.-COL. C. R. BLAIR, Assistant Agent, Governor-General, on Special Duty, Tonk.

To—CAPTAIN W. J. W. MUIR, Officiating Political Agent, Haraotee.

BEFORE handing over charge of this Office, I would desire to submit the following brief remarks on the administration of the Tonk State during the brief period of my tenure of office:—

2. The administration of the State, as reported in my letter marginally noted, was formally made over to the Nawab in open Durbar on the 1st January last.

From Assistant Agent, Governor-General, Tonk, to the Officiating Political Agent, Haraotee, dated 2nd January 1870, No. 2.

3. With the exception of Sahibzadeh Hafiz Ibadoolla Khan, His Highness retained the services of the Members of the Regency Council to assist him in the conduct of affairs.

4. This arrangement could not but be considered as satisfactory, as fears were entertained that the Nawab's selection for the post of Dewan and other high offices would have been confined to the few personal attendants immediately in attendance on him.

5. Sahibzadeh Oobeydoolla Khan, uncle to the Nawab, was appointed Dewan, a post he had at one time filled under the Ex-Nawab.

The Sahibzadeh had been spoken of to me by the late Captain J. Blair in the most favourable terms as a man of intelligence, hard-working, and one that would eventually become the leading man in the State.

6. I quite concur in my predecessor's estimate of his ability and industry. At the same time, I am not altogether without anxiety that his well-known character for extravagance may not hereafter be the cause of much financial embarrassment to the State.

7. There is no cause for apprehension on this head so long as a British officer is retained here, for the Sahibzadeh, to do him justice, is ever ready and willing to take advice. I am only apprehensive that the Nawab, who is himself extravagantly inclined, may, on the withdrawal of the British officer, not have those about him who, by their example and advice, would be the means of checking any undue extravagance and expenditure.

8. Nevertheless, with the single exception of Sahibzadeh Oobeydoolla Khan, I am not aware of any one person better fitted for the post of Dewan.

9. His Highness the Nawab still continues his studies under the tuition of the Moonshee of this Office, and can now read and write.

In my intercourse with the Nawab I have always found him most friendly and amenable to reason. He has commenced to take an interest in current affairs, hearing and deciding important matters, and is quite capable of forming a fair opinion on most subjects submitted to him.

10. As hardly six months have elapsed since the Government of this State was entrusted to the Nawab, it would be premature to pass judgment on the manner in which the administration has been conducted.

11. Nevertheless, after making due allowance for His Highness' neglected education and inexperience of all matters connected with the

administration, his sudden transition from obscurity to absolute power, I must, in justice to the Nawab, state that he evinces every desire to make himself acquainted with the administration and working of the State; that he is fully sensible of the embarrassed condition of its finances, and has as yet shown no disposition to incur undue expenditure.

12. On the whole, then, I am sanguine that, if His Highness adheres to the policy he is now pursuing, and is able to contend against the evil influences which, I regret to say, are continually brought to bear upon him, retaining in positions of trust those whose interest it is to secure a good government, there is every reason for hope that he will become a fair Ruler.

Finance.

13. The following Statement shows the actual income and expenditure for 1868-69:—

| RECEIPTS. | | | EXPENDITURE. | | |
|-----------|--|------------|--------------|---|------------|
| | | <i>Rs.</i> | | | <i>Rs.</i> |
| I. | Revenue | 7,44,210 | I. | Army | 2,50,415 |
| II. | Customs | 87,514 | II. | Civil Establishments | 1,46,041 |
| III. | Nuzurana | 31,012 | III. | Regency Council | 18,000 |
| IV. | Judicial | 19,460 | IV. | Foreign Agencies | 14,670 |
| V. | Stamps | 10,303 | V. | Dispensary | 1,500 |
| VI. | Abkaree | 3,180 | VI. | Allowance to members of family | 2,08,167 |
| VII. | Miscellaneous | 75,732 | VII. | Allowance to Nawab | 12,000 |
| | Total ordinary receipts ... | 9,71,035 | VIII. | On account of balance due to Ex-Nawab | 18,000 |
| | <i>Extraordinary Receipts.</i> | | IX. | Allowance to Nawab | 62,000 |
| VIII. | Loan by Government of India | 1,00,000 | X. | Pay of Vakeels | 10,992 |
| IX. | Temporary Loans | 1,05,230 | XI. | Assistant Agent, Governor-General, and Establishment | 10,381 |
| | | | XII. | Alms-House | 11,295 |
| | | | XIII. | Purchases | 28,601 |
| | | | XIV. | Gifts and rewards | 17,195 |
| | | | XV. | State Establishment, Stable, &c. | 67,634 |
| | | | XVI. | Public Works | 2,629 |
| | | | XVII. | Pergunnah expenses | 41,302 |
| | | | XVIII. | Miscellaneous | 2,472 |
| | | | | Total ordinary expenditure ... | 9,49,694 |
| | | | | <i>Extraordinary Expenditure.</i> | |
| | | | XIX. | Tuccavee advances | 16,313 |
| | | | XX. | Remissions | 20,734 |
| | | | XXI. | Irrigation and other works | 57,158 |
| | | | XXII. | Towards liquidation of debts | 89,192 |
| | | | XXIII. | Deolce and Jeypore Road, &c. | 9,419 |
| | | | XXIV. | Loss to State by sale of grain | 10,000 |
| | | | XXV. | Advances to State servants | 6,271 |
| | | | | Total of ordinary and extraordinary expenditure ... | 11,58,811 |
| | | | | Surplus | 17,454 |
| | Total of ordinary and extraordinary receipts | 11,76,265 | | Grand Total ... | 11,76,265 |

The ordinary income of the year, it will be noticed, amounts to Rupees 9,71,035 against an ordinary expenditure of Rupees 9,49,694, leaving a cash balance of Rupees 21,341. Item No. VIII. is an instalment towards the liquidation of a liability to be paid in three years, so that the cash balance may be said to stand at Rupees 39,341.

14. Owing to the late famine the actual revenue realized fell short of the estimated amount by Rupees 1,61,800.

There are, however, outstanding balances amounting in all to Rupees 1,27,000, which are in the course of collection: a portion, amounting to Rupees 45,000, has already been paid in.

15. Customs collections exhibit a considerable increase: this is owing to the large quantity of cotton that was exported to Agra during the months of March and April.

16. The increase of Rupees 45,200, item No. VII., is accounted for by the repayment of advances made by the State to its servants and others.

17. Turning to the disbursements, there is a slight increase in the cost of Civil Establishments: this was unavoidable, as, owing to the unparalleled distress that prevailed last year, it would have been little short of cruelty to have dismissed either menials or attendants, or even to have reduced their stipends.

18. In January 1869 an advance of one lakh of rupees was granted by the Government. Of this sum, as shown in item No. XXI., Rupees 57,158 were expended in works of irrigation under the personal superintendence of the late Captain J. Blair calculated to be of permanent advantage to the revenues of the State, besides, at the time, giving employment to the destitute and poor. Advances on the terms noted in my predecessor's letter No. 1A. of 1868 were also made to zemindars and others to induce them to dig wells, &c.

Rupees 9,336 were expended in Public Works and other relief measures.

19. The regular Budget Estimate for the current year stands thus:—

| RECEIPTS. | | | EXPENDITURE. | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------|--------------|--|------------|
| | | <i>Rs.</i> | | | <i>Rs.</i> |
| I. | Revenue ... | 9,09,561 | I. | Army ... | 2,26,000 |
| II. | Customs ... | 77,553 | II. | Police ... | 19,542 |
| III. | Judicial ... | 20,500 | III. | Allowance to members of family ... | 2,01,440 |
| IV. | Nuzurana ... | 5,739 | IV. | Civil Establishments ... | 1,39,000 |
| V. | Stamps ... | 4,400 | V. | Miscellaneous ... | 2,817 |
| VI. | Abkaree ... | 4,142 | VI. | Regency Council ... | 18,009 |
| VII. | Tuccavee advances ... | 6,138 | VII. | Ex-Nawab's stipend ... | 61,500 |
| VIII. | Miscellaneous... .. | 37,541 | VIII. | Instalment towards debt due to Ex-Nawab ... | 36,000 |
| | | | IX. | Nawab's allowances ... | 12,000 |
| | | | X. | Assistant Agent, Governor-General, and Establishment ... | 12,000 |
| | | | XI. | Public Works ... | 24,000 |
| | | | XII. | Alms-house ... | 6,000 |
| | | | XIII. | Purchases and grants ... | 30,000 |
| | | | XIV. | Pergunnah expenses ... | 17,982 |
| | | | XV. | Awards of Courts of Vakeels ... | 13,303 |
| | | | XVI. | Contingencies ... | 4,041 |
| | | | | Ordinary expenditure ... | 8,63,624 |
| | | | | <i>Extraordinary.</i> | |
| | | | XVII. | Instalment towards debt due to Government of India ... | 32,000 |
| | | | XVIII. | Ditto towards State liabilities ... | 1,50,000 |
| | | | | Total of ordinary and extraordinary expenditure ... | 10,45,624 |
| | | | | Surplus ... | 19,950 |
| | Total of Income ... | 10,65,574 | | Grand Total ... | 10,65,574 |

20. There is a considerable increase under the head of revenue as compared with the receipts of last year. This increase is partly caused by the resumption of a jaghire of Sooltan Jehan Begum, on whose death the estate lapsed to the State. This jaghire yields an annual rental of about Rupees 31,000.

21. The expenditure for State Establishments is considerably lessened. A saving has been effected in this one item alone of Rupees 31,000. This is owing to a reduction in the commissariat, stables, and kitchen expenses, and in a great measure also to the reduced price of grain.

22. I now proceed to remark on the financial prospects for the year 1870-71, as shown in the following Table:—

| RECEIPTS. | | | DISBURSEMENTS. | | |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|----------------|---|-----------|
| | | Rs. | | | Rs. |
| I. | Revenue | 9,35,389 | I. | Army and Police | 2,46,667 |
| II. | Customs | 77,837 | II. | Civil Establishment | 1,47,239 |
| III. | Judicial | 20,500 | III. | Dispensary | 1,416 |
| IV. | Nuzurana | 5,749 | IV. | Allowance to members of family | 2,00,678 |
| V. | Stamps | 4,400 | V. | Privy expenditure | 21,000 |
| VI. | Abkaree | 4,142 | VI. | Instalment towards debts due to Ex- | |
| VII. | Lapses | 535 | | Nawab | 36,000 |
| VIII. | Miscellaneous | 35,013 | VII. | Allowance to ditto | 60,000 |
| | | | VIII. | Foreign Agencies | 7,000 |
| | | | IX. | Assistant Agent, Governor-General, and Establishment | 6,000 |
| | | | X. | Purchases | 15,000 |
| | | | XI. | State establishment, Commissariat, &c. | 36,000 |
| | | | XII. | Gifts and rewards | 12,000 |
| | | | XIII. | Public works | 10,000 |
| | | | XIV. | Pergunnah expenses | 20,000 |
| | | | XV. | Miscellaneous | 10,000 |
| | | | | Ordinary Expenditure | 8,32,000 |
| | | | | Extraordinary. | |
| | | | XVI. | Instalment towards debt due to Government of India, including interest. | 29,000 |
| | | | XVII. | Ditto ditto other liabilities | 1,85,523 |
| | | | | Ordinary and Extraordinary expenditure | 10,46,523 |
| | | | | Surplus | 37,012 |
| | Total, Rupees | 10,83,565 | | Grand Total | 10,83,565 |

The Budget exhibits an ordinary income of Rupees 10,83,665 against an ordinary expenditure of Rupees 8,32,000, leaving a balance of Rupees 2,51,565.

23. The items of receipt do not call for any particular remark.

24. The estimated expenditure, it will be seen, is considerably under the income.

The reduction in the cost of Civil Establishments is most prominent. The amount estimated is Rupees 1,47,239, but in this is included a sum of Rupees 12,000, which in other Budgets formed a portion of the item "Regency Council." The proposed saving on this head alone will amount to Rupees 25,000.

25. A sum of Rupees 2,14,000 has been set apart for the payment of the State liabilities, including an instalment of Rupees 29,000 towards the payment of the loan of one lakh of rupees borrowed from the Government of India.

The liabilities of the State, which amount in round numbers to nearly 13 lakhs, are distributed amongst a large number of creditors. Arrangements for their liquidation in $7\frac{1}{2}$ years were made by my predecessor, but it will be only by the practice of rigid economy that they can be carried out in their integrity.

The expenditure is well controlled if kept under $8\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, thus leaving a sufficient margin to meet the claims of the creditors. This point I have repeatedly impressed upon the Nawab, and have received his assurance that he will endeavour to maintain intact the arrangements made for the settlement of the debts and economise the resources of the State to the utmost.

It would, however, be very much more satisfactory could the outstanding debts now due by the State be consolidated: many of the creditors are ready to compromise their claims for a cash payment of about nine annas in the rupee,—a measure which would of itself largely reduce the debt and allow of the more pressing liabilities being met by a sum of eight lakhs.

26. The following Statement shows the number of cases disposed of by the different Courts after the Nawab's accession to power. I do not myself place much reliance on it:—

| | Pending at close of last year. | Instituted. | Total. | Disposed of. | Balance. |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------|--------------|----------|
| Criminal cases ... | 55 | 182 | 237 | 189 | 48 |
| Civil cases ... | 271 | 310 | 581 | 326 | 255 |

27. Justice is administered according to Mahomedan Law, there being no really defined procedure.

His Highness has, however, consented to adopt some of the essential points of the British Civil and Criminal Codes as a guide for the Courts.

The matter is under discussion.

Mogheas.

28. Much has been done by my predecessor in Nimbahera District towards weaning this troublesome class from lawlessness to habits of industry. Grants of land rent-free, &c., were conferred on them. In return for these benefits, heads of gangs were made responsible for all robberies that occurred. Roll calls were daily taken by the Patels.

It has been, however, found exceedingly difficult to enforce the responsibilities of the head-men, all attempts at so doing being at once met by the flight of the offender to adjacent territories.

The territories of the Chiefs of Meywar, Scindia, and Tonk are so interlaced,—barely a mile intervening in some places between the boundaries of one State and those of another,—that every facility is offered for escape. The preventive measures adopted in the Nimbahera Pergunnah are, therefore, to a great extent nullified.

The only arrangement which suggested itself to me is for the States concerned to enter into a mutual agreement for the delivery of any

Mogheea whose rendition may be demanded. Any Mogheea of one State found in the limits of another without a duly certified pass to be made over to the authorities of the place he belongs to.

Want of unity of action on the part of the local authorities has hitherto hampered all attempts to suppress this class of professional robbers. The evil I consider is only to be met by a uniform pressure simultaneously maintained in all the districts concerned.

Dispensary.

29. This institution continues to work very successfully. The Native Doctor, Bheekoo Singh, appears to have gained the good will and confidence of the people, for the attendance is numerous and satisfactory.

School.

30. The attendance at the School has fallen off considerably, the result of a want of interest displayed by the Nawab. I hope, however, the attendance will soon be as large as heretofore.

31. In conclusion, I trust I may be excused for the meagre nature of this Report. It was my intention to have submitted one in December next, the date of the withdrawal of this Office, but being in the meantime transferred elsewhere, I have thought it desirable to record my impressions regarding the administration of the State before my departure, though I was unable to furnish such Returns and statistics of information as I could have wished.

SIROHI REPORT.

No. 197-SP., dated 2nd May 1870.

From—CAPTAIN C. A. BAYLAY, Political Assistant, Sirohi.

To—LIEUT.-COL. R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Govr.-Genl.'s Agent,
Rajpootana.

I HAVE the honor to submit a Report on the administration of the Sirohi State for the year 1869-70.

Preliminary Remarks.

2. I will premise by stating that, on my assuming charge of the duties of this Office from my predecessor, Mr. Muir, on the 14th of last June, I found the State in great difficulties; the famine was at its height, the finances of the State were seriously embarrassed, the troops and officials were six months in arrears and clamouring for pay, there was no money in the Treasury, and the State banker refused to advance any more.

In addition to these difficulties, the Rao, a few days after I had taken charge, dismissed his Minister, Ameen Mahomed, on the grounds of impertinence and misbehaviour; there was, therefore, no one to look after affairs and carry on the work of the State. The Durbar, too, was in daily expectation of the administration of affairs being placed under the superintendency of the British Government, and, therefore, for a time made no effort to surmount the accumulation of difficulties and put things in order.

Appointment of a new Minister.

3. At this critical time His Highness the Rao bethought himself of his former Minister, "Niamut Ali," who had retired to his estate at Wassun, which had been given to him in jaghire in addition to a pension of Rupees 100 per mensem in recognition of his past services. Niamut Ali at first begged to be excused, for, as he afterwards informed me, he did not see how he could raise the money required to pay the arrears due to the troops and officials. However, the Rao would take no refusal, and, after a little delay, Niamut Ali consented to accept the post of Dewan. I myself knew nothing personally of the character of "Niamut Ali," and I was aware that Mr. Muir distrusted him. I therefore felt somewhat averse to the appointment, but I soon saw that there was no choice in the matter, as there was nobody else at hand at all fit for the post; and, as events have turned out, I have had every cause to be satisfied with the Rao's choice of a Minister.

His efforts to overcome difficulties.

4. Immediately on his appointment, the new Minister set himself energetically to work, and, by the sale of certain building sites in the principal towns and by collecting sums due to the Raj, he succeeded in raising sufficient money to pay off the six months' arrears of pay due to the troops and officials without increasing the debt of ninety odd thousand

rupees due to the State banker. He also induced the latter to forego for the present his claims to payment on condition that no further advance should be asked for, and that the interest should be regularly paid. In this way the difficulties of the State were tided over for a time. Meanwhile the decision of Government regarding the superintendency of affairs was anxiously looked for.

Proposed superintendency of affairs.

5. Towards the end of July the reply of Government was received, and was immediately communicated to the Durbar. The new Minister urged the acceptance of the terms by the Rao, for, as he informed me at the time, he saw no prospect of carrying the State through its difficulties, owing to the serious embarrassment of the finances and the failure of the Rao to make any reductions in expenditure.

Failure of negotiations.

6. The negotiations, however, fell through, for the terms which you considered it advisable to propose to Government, and which Government approved of, differed in several respects from those proposed by the Rao; and His Highness, in his reply, whilst signifying his readiness to abide by these latter, expressed his inability to accept the former for reasons which I need not here detail, as they are already before you and Government, and he concluded by saying that he would rather endeavour to carry on his affairs as best he could.

Efforts to reduce expenditure.

7. Shortly after this decision on the part of the Rao, I proceeded to Sirohi and took the opportunity of impressing on His Highness that the fact of his having refused the terms offered by the British Government rendered it all the more incumbent on him to rouse himself and use every effort to reduce all unnecessary expenditure and liquidate the State debt and the fast accumulating arrears of pay due to the troops and officials.

I also examined the accounts in considerable detail and pointed out many items capable of advantageous reduction, such as presents, rations to retainers and others, sums given away in charity to religious mendicants, feasts to Brahmins, the feeding of pigeons, &c., &c., and last, but not least, the stable expenditure.

Difficulty of making reductions.

8. You are aware of the difficulties encountered by every Native Ruler in the reduction of wasteful and extravagant expenditure, owing to the obstacles placed in the way by the numerous retainers and hangers-on always to be found about every Native Court, and whose object it is to increase rather than diminish an expenditure from which they themselves reap so much benefit.

I consequently for a time found that the Rao, although ready enough to acknowledge the truth of what I told him and the necessity of reforms, took no real action in the matter.

Reduction of expenditure.

9. However, I lost no favourable opportunity of pressing the matter on His Highness, and as we became better acquainted and I gained more influence, he at length felt the necessity for action, and in the beginning of December I received the welcome intelligence that His Highness had instituted reductions in expenditure exceeding Rupees 23,000 per annum, and had promised further reforms in the same direction where practicable. The Dewan, who brought me the news, expressed in lively terms his great satisfaction at the measure, for that he had become nearly hopeless in regard to the financial difficulties.

The intelligence, too, was a source of great relief to me, for the disastrous famine, aggravated by the visitation of locusts and combined with the continued outlawry of Nathoo Singh and the embarrassed state of the finances, had caused me much care and anxiety of mind in the political administration of this State.

10. I will now proceed to touch on the subject of the "outlaws," the famine, and the visitation of locusts, which are among the principal topics worthy of comment during the year under report.

The outlaws.

11. In regard to the outlaw, my predecessor has entered so fully into this subject in the opening paragraphs of his last Annual Report, that I need only add a few brief remarks on what has occurred since I assumed charge of this Office.

At that time, *viz.*, the middle of June last, the efforts made to apprehend the outlaws having proved so unsuccessful, the greater portion of the regular troops had been withdrawn, and there were only four or five small detachments of the Erinpoora Force left.

The Detachment Erinpoora Force withdrawn from Bhuttana.

12. In September last, in accordance with your instructions, I directed the return to head-quarters of the detachment at Bhuttana, it being replaced by a party of Raj troops.

13. For some time nothing particular was heard regarding the outlaws beyond an occasional raid made into Sirohi from the Marwar border. The only information received through spies was to the effect that the band were living at Loheena and Oochmut.

Death of Nathoo Singh.

14. On the 8th November I received intelligence that the outlaw Nathoo Singh and his cousin, Khoom Singh, had died: this news was subsequently confirmed as far as concerned Nathoo Singh, who, it appeared, died of fever at Tavidur, about 15 miles from Loheena in Marwar.

Nathoo Singh's son and cousin continue in outlawry.

15. I was in hopes at the time that the death of the outlaw Chief would have put an end to this unfortunate business, which had proved so disastrous to the Sirohi State, but such did not prove to be the case, for the band continued, as before, to make occasional plundering excursions into Sirohi.

16. In the end of November I received a joint petition from Khoom Singh, the cousin, and Bharut Singh, the son, of Nathoo Singh, stating that the latter being dead, they desired to come in, provided I would promise them forgiveness and immunity from punishment. In reply, I intimated to them that I strongly advised their giving themselves up, but that, in consideration of their having been participants in the many outrages committed by Nathoo Singh and his band, I could not promise them more than their lives.

They evidently expected to be let off with a nominal fine, as had been done on former occasions : such not being the case, they determined not to come in, and have remained in outlawry ever since.

The remainder of the Erinpoora Force withdrawn.

17. In the end of December I received intimation that the Government of India had, in conformity with your recommendations, sanctioned the withdrawal of the remaining detachments of the Erinpoora Force, and this was accordingly done after a six weeks' notice to the Durbar to enable it to make other arrangements. The Native Officers and men of the Erinpoora Force had long lost all heart in the work, and the withdrawal of the detachments does not appear to have affected the matter either one way or the other, the outlaws continuing, as before, to make occasional raids into Sirohi, and retiring immediately to their asylum in the Marwar border.

18. From what I have seen, I am of opinion that this Durbar is doing its best with the means at its disposal for the suppression of the outlaws, but the difficulties of dealing with this matter are very great, as shown by my predecessor in the 6th paragraph of his Administration Report, added to which the outlaws have a safe asylum and basis for their operations close at hand in the Marwar border. Under these circumstances, the Sirohi Chief is rendered nearly helpless in the matter, and it is only by some lucky chance that we can hope for the apprehension of the leaders of the outlaw band and the termination of this vexatious and calamitous affair.

The famine.

19. I must now turn to a subject which has been a cause of even more care and anxiety than the last during the greater portion of the year under report.

At the time of my taking charge of this Office the famine was at its height, and the distress consequent thereon daily increasing.

Relief measures.

Various relief works had been instituted by my predecessor on and at the foot of Aboo, but as the month of June went by, and there was no sign of rain, it became evident that additional measures were necessary to afford relief to the numerous starving people who were flocking into Aboo, and also to the unfortunate Marwarrees who were passing through Anadra (at the foot of the hill) in numbers, on their way back to their own country from Guzerat. Fortunately at this time the Executive Engineer of Deesa and Aboo, having obtained a grant of money from the Bombay Government for famine works, was enabled to give

employment to a considerable number of destitute on the hill in making and repairing roads, and as a great portion of these people had children too young to work, they were given daily a dole of cooked grain from the Aboo Relief Fund: these measures of relief were supplemented by a liberal distribution of food and clothing by yourself and other residents of Aboo.

20. At Anadra cooked grain was distributed daily to the Marwarrees passing through, and employment was found for a number of the poor of Anadra and the neighbourhood in repairing a tank and clearing a road through the jungle from the foot of Aboo.

21. These works were carried on until September, when the rain set in so heavily as to almost put a stop to the road works, and I found it necessary to establish a poor-house at Anadra to afford shelter to the sick and infirm.

Towards the end of September the rain having moderated, the road works were recommenced: among others I constructed a broad and substantial road through the Aboo Bazaar, which was much required. At this time, too, I again found it necessary to distribute food to the Marwarrees, who, in consequence of their crops being devoured by the locusts, were flocking back to Guzerat in large numbers.

22. The funds at my disposal being small, I could only carry out relief works on a comparatively limited scale, but the measures adopted were doubtless the means of saving the lives of a number of persons, especially women and children, who would otherwise have succumbed to the severity of the famine.

I would here mention the very liberal assistance rendered by the Chiefs of Katteeawar, who subscribed Rupees 2,600 to the Aboo Relief Fund.

The total sum expended through this Office amounted to Rupees 8,782, of which over Rupees 7,000 were expended subsequent to my taking charge.

Throughout the seven and a half months the poor-house was kept open there was a daily average of sixty-six persons who received relief. During some months of this period the daily average exceeded 300 persons.

The food distributed from June 1869 to February 1870 inclusive amounted to maunds 603, and as a number of those fed were children, we may safely count at the rate of 100 persons to each maund of grain, which would give a total of 60,000 persons relieved.

Relief measures on the part of the Durbar.

23. The aid rendered by the Durbar in relief measures has already been noted in the last Annual Report (paragraph 8). His Highness the Rao, in addition, expended a considerable amount from his privy purse, and from his kindness of heart, he would, I am sure, spend more had funds been available.

The effect of the famine on the various classes.

24. As regards the sufferings of the various classes in this State, the lower castes, such as Bheels, Meenas, Grassias, Dhers, &c., fared worst, and great numbers of these left the district for Guzerat in order to find employment on the various relief works started there.

On the other hand, the agricultural class, although hard-pressed, suffered much less, for the Durbar took timely measures, through the Pergunnah officials, to secure them assistance in the way of advances of grain, &c., from the grain-dealers and bohras: in this way they managed to tide over the worst of the famine time, and very few of them left the district.

The Kabarees, a large class in this State, suffered severely on account of the death of the greater portion of their cattle.

Loss of cattle.

25. Plough cattle and buffaloes were taken most care of on account of their value, and, consequently, fewer of these perished, but cows died in enormous numbers during the drought from want of fodder, and those which survived till the rains set in were so reduced in strength, that they died by thousands from surfeit of green grass: it is calculated that 75 per cent. of them perished.

Importation of grain.

26. During the famine this district depended on Guzerat for its supply of grain, and immense quantities were imported from Ahmedabad, Puttun, and Siddpore.

General effects of the famine on prices.

27. Prices rose rapidly. In the middle of July wheat was selling at 4 seers 13½ chittacks, and bajree at 5 seers 5 chittacks, per rupee. After this, on the rains setting in so favourably, there was a slight improvement, but the ravages of the locusts speedily sent up prices again, and at the end of September wheat was selling at 4 seers 6½ chittacks, and bajree at 4 seers 7½ chittacks: these rates continued much the same till the end of October, since when grain of all kinds has become cheaper, but very gradually; so even now, in the beginning of May, wheat is selling at only 7 seers 8 chittacks, and bajree at 8 seers 4 chittacks.

The above quotations are from the Weekly Price Current of the Aboo Bazaar. At the foot of the hill, in the Anadra Bazaar, about half a seer more of grain was procurable per rupee, but at Sirohi itself and other towns in the district prices ranged higher, and during October 3 seers of wheat per rupee were with difficulty procurable at Sirohi.

I append a Statement (Appendix A.) which shows a curious effect of this severe famine in assimilating the prices of all kinds of grain.

From this Statement of prices some idea will be formed how hard the famine must have pressed on the poorer classes and on officials and servants drawing small fixed salaries.

Great rise of camel hire.

28. The grain imported from Guzerat was carried almost entirely on camels, the surviving cattle being too weak to draw laden carts through the sand; the result was, that the camels, being overworked and badly fed in the intensely hot weather, died in numbers, and the rate of camel carriage rose 100 per cent., thus adding terribly to the cost of the imported grain.

Rain-fall.

29. The rains set in very late, there being no appreciable fall till the 9th July : after this the rain-fall was most favourable. The following is a register of the rain-fall at Aboo during 1869, kindly furnished me by Dr. Moore, the Surgeon of the Rajpootana Agency :—

| Months. | | | | Number of days rain fell. | Inches. | Cents. | REMARKS. |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------|---------|--------|--|
| January | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 3 | 13 | The average rain-fall for the last 10 years is 68 inches 60 cents. |
| June | ... | ... | ... | 3 | | 30 | |
| July | ... | ... | ... | 17 | 35 | 25 | The greatest rain-fall during any 24 hours was on the 24th July 1869, when 11 inches 60 cents were measured. |
| August | ... | ... | ... | 17 | 12 | 80 | |
| September | ... | ... | ... | 21 | 27 | 43 | |
| October | ... | ... | ... | 2 | | 6 | |
| Totals | | | | 64 | 79 | 6 | |

From the above it will be seen that the rain-fall of last year exceeded the average by 12 inches 46 cents.

Visitation of locusts.

30. I will now proceed to give a brief account of the visitation of locusts. The first flights arrived in the beginning of August, passing from Marwar over the whole of the western portion of this State, and thence on to Guzerat: they did not stay any time, or cause any great damage, except in the north-west pergunnahs, where they devoured some crops of bajree, which had been sown early ; but they unfortunately left immense numbers of eggs, which commenced to hatch in the beginning of September, and in a short time the western half of the State was covered with young locusts: they did not do much harm at first, and the villagers, had they been willing, might have destroyed enormous numbers of them by sweeping them into narrow trenches and covering them with earth. I explained this to them, and although they promised to follow my advice, they never did so; they seemed to have a superstitious dread of killing them, and many of the people had never seen locusts before, and did not fully appreciate the danger to which their crops were exposed.

31. The eastern half of the State escaped almost entirely from the ravages of the locusts, for the first flights did not cross the range of hills running north and south through Sirohi; there were, consequently, no young locusts hatched there, and the mass of the locusts in the western portion, on getting their wings in October, took flight southwards. I had always been under the impression that rain destroyed locusts, but the very heavy rain last September did not seem to do them any harm, for they sought refuge from the wet in trees and bushes, and, on the weather clearing up, seemed as lively as ever. I also noticed that the young locusts swam across any streams or pools of water which came in their way.

32. In October several flights of locusts passed over Aboo, but they did not alight for any time, and no damage was done : the locusts, as a rule, seem to avoid the hills, and kept to the open plains.

33. This visitation of locusts was most unfortunate, occurring as it did at a time of such great distress and famine ; it was also quite unlooked for, as it appears that locusts had not been known to come in any numbers into this district during a period of 20 years.

The Crops.

34. The rain-fall during the year was, as I have previously stated, most favourable, and everything promised well for the crops till the locusts came. On the whole, much less damage was done to the crops than might have been anticipated, for the eastern portion of the State escaped almost entirely, and the khureef crop there was, consequently, very good. In the western portion, too, many of the fields escaped damage from the neighbouring tracts of grass and bush jungle, which afforded ample food for the locusts. In the north and west pergunnahs, which suffered most, about half the crops was destroyed, and in the south about a quarter.

The bajree, Indian corn, and til crops were much eaten, but koorie and burtee, two inferior kinds of grain, much sown in this neighbourhood, escaped in a great measure, and gowar, a kind of vetch used for feeding cattle, was not touched by the locusts.

35. The rubbee crops, consisting principally of wheat and barley, were very fine all over the district, and such as the people say they have not had for many years.

Revenue administration.

36. The Revenue Administration of this State has somewhat improved since the appointment to certain of the pergunnahs of Mahomedan Tehseeldars on better pay : these men appear to be working well, and are a great improvement on the old class of Kamdars of the Bunya caste, whose whole time and energies were devoted to grain-dealing, to the detriment of the Raj interests.

This Report having already attained to considerable length, I will defer further remarks on this head till next year.

Police.

37. In this, as in most Native States, the Police duties are performed by the Raj Sebundy and Sowars : the arrangements are very crude and far from satisfactory on account of the want of system and supervision.

In addition to the troops there are a number of Rajpoot Thannadars, who are a fine, manly body of men, and do their best to preserve order and suppress crime.

Inefficiency of Fowandar.

38. At the time of my taking charge of this Office the official at the head of the Raj Force was a man of the Bunya caste by name "Kustoor Chund." I soon found that this man was utterly unfit for the post, for, instead of being constantly on the move, looking after the

various thannahs and posts in the district, he remained at Sirohi, in order to carry on his trade of grain-dealing, to which he devoted nearly his whole time.

I represented the matter strongly to the Durbar, but "Kustoor Chund" had been a long time in the Raj employ, and, being a cunning and plausible fellow, had obtained considerable influence over the Rao; the latter was, therefore, for a time averse to turning him out.

Appointment of new Fouzdar.

39. However, I am happy to be able to state that His Highness has since acted on my advice and appointed a successor, one of the Rajpoot Thannadars, by name "Natha Barur," who appears well fitted for the post, and carries on his work with great energy and zeal.

I append a Statement (Appendix B.) showing the distribution of the troops and of the inhabited villages, also the Raj share of revenue in the different pergunnahs.

Jaghiredars.

40. During my tour in the cold weather I took every opportunity of making the acquaintance of the Thakoors and Jaghiredars.

I regret to say that the opinion I formed of them as a body was not favourable. I found them, for the most part, idle, totally uneducated, and involved in debt, and many of them given to drinking to excess. They seem to care nothing for the improvement of their estates, and are opposed to all reforms: most of them have never travelled above a few miles beyond their own villages; they do not therefore see the advantages of reforms, and think nothing good but that which has been the custom of their forefathers.

In a State like Sirohi, where the greater portion of the land belongs to jaghiredars, the assistance and co-operation of this class are of course most necessary in carrying out reforms; but I fear we can look for but little assistance from them until they are better educated, and also until they have travelled a little and seen more civilized parts of the country. At present they have never seen any better state of civilization to compare with their own, and therefore do not think their own bad.

I have used my best endeavours to induce certain influential jaghiredars to send their sons to be taught at the Sirohi School. Up to the present my efforts have been of no avail, but I trust I may be more successful when I become better acquainted with them. I would here add that in the beginning of last March His Highness the Rao held a meeting of the principal jaghiredars of the State to endeavour to induce them to assist him in the cause of order generally, and especially in the suppression of the raids frequently made by the outlaws from the Marwar border into Sirohi territory. I myself was present at the meeting, and pointed out to the jaghiredars how incumbent on them it was to give every assistance to their Chief in such a good cause: they made many promises and protestations of their willingness and intention to give aid, and for a short time they did bestir themselves a little, but I fear that the greater portion of them have already relapsed into their usual state of listlessness and inactivity.

Administration of Justice.

41. In my predecessor's Report for 1867-68, paragraphs 4 and 6, were detailed certain improvements in the administration of criminal and civil justice. I have much pleasure in bringing to notice further reforms which have lately been made in this department.

One of the principal defects in the working of the Sirohi Courts was that the proceedings and judgments of the Courts were invariably submitted for sanction of His Highness the Rao, so that he was *de facto* Judge, and the despatch of business depended on his health and inclination for work.

Reforms in the same.

This has now been altered, and the decisions of the Sirohi Courts will be final, except when appealed against.

A simple Criminal Code based upon the Indian Penal Code is also to be brought into use immediately.

Lastly, the Tehseeldars have been empowered to try and determine civil suits up to Rupees 300 in value: this will be a great boon to people in the district who have hitherto had to proceed to Sirohi for the settlement of all cases exceeding Rupees 75 in value.

Jails.

42. There has been an average of about 70 prisoners in the Sirohi Jail during the year, which is more than usual, but the severity of the famine naturally led to an increase of crime. The accommodation in the Jail is not so roomy as could be wished, but I found the place clean and the prisoners properly clothed and fed: their general health, too, has been good.

Dispensary.

43. The Dispensary at Sirohi has been efficiently kept up during the year, and proved of great use in the dispensing of medical aid to the increased number of sick consequent on the famine. As the Rajpootana Dispensaries will be fully reported on by the General Superintendent, I need not add more on this subject.

Education.

44. The severe distress suffered by all classes this year has not been favourable to the spread of education, and I regret that I am unable to report any marked improvement under this head, but the three principal schools at Sirohi, Rohera, and Muddar, have been fairly attended.

At Sirohi there are 17 English and Urdu scholars and 67 Hindee scholars. At Rohera and Muddar Hindee only is taught: there has been an average attendance of from 50 to 70 boys. In nearly every village the children of the Mahajun class are taught by the "Juttee" to read, write, and keep accounts in Hindee, but the mass of the people are totally uneducated, and as they seem to have no inclination and will not pay anything to have their children taught, we can scarcely hope for much advancement in this department till such time as the Durbar can afford to establish Free Schools in the district.

I have used my best endeavours to encourage the spread of education in personally examining and giving small prizes to the scholars, and the Sirohi School has received valuable assistance from the Sahiban Tej Singh, brother of His Highness the Rao, who periodically visits the school and examines the boys.

Establishment of a school at Aboo.

45. While on this subject, I may mention the establishment of a Free School at Aboo. His Highness the Rao kindly gave me the use of a building; the residents of Aboo and the traders in the bazaar subscribed sufficient to pay a Hindee teacher, and an English writer in the Rajpootana Agency Office, who was formerly Head-master of the Nusseerabad School, has given great assistance during his leisure hours in superintending the work and teaching English and Urdu. In this way the school has made a fair start, and there is now a daily attendance of 29 boys and 4 girls, who are making very good progress in their studies.

General state of the country.

46. During the trying times we have lately passed through the general peace of the country has remained undisturbed, and, considering the difficult nature of the country, the predatory character of large classes of the inhabitants, and the great quantity of merchandize, especially grain, passing through the country, there has been much less violent crime than might have been anticipated, and the serious robberies which took place were almost invariably traceable to the outlaws. There was, I regret to say, a good deal of cattle robbery, but with a large Bheel population in a starving condition, this was scarcely to be wondered at.

In order to protect traders and travellers passing along the main road as much as possible, the Durbar, in addition to the Bheel and Meena chokies, posted sowars at intervals to patrol the road.

The Grassia Tracts.

47. I have much pleasure in stating that the Grassia tracts, only a short time ago the terror of the surrounding districts, remained quiet and peaceable during this trying time, owing to the beneficial measures adopted by the Durbar in regard to them.

In visiting this tract during the cold season I was much pleased to see how much land the Grassias were bringing under cultivation and what flourishing crops they had: they seem to be most enterprising and hard-working agriculturalists, and numbers of them have emigrated to the fertile valley of the Bunnass between the Aravallees and Aboo, where they are doing good work in clearing the dense jungle and spreading cultivation.

In order to encourage this as much as possible, the Durbar now grants purwannas under the seal of the Raj to all settlers in this tract, guaranteeing them the cultivation of their land free for a period of four years.

Mr. Muir, in the 11th paragraph of his last Annual Report, adverted to the creditable state of this portion of the district, and I trust that the firm and judicious measures adopted by the Sirohi Durbar in the

management of the same may meet with the approval of Government, as an encouragement to His Highness the Rao to persevere in further administrative reforms.

General health of the country.

48. During last year there was an increase of sickness, as was to be anticipated from the severity of the famine. In June and July cholera prevailed more or less all over the district, and numbers of people died from this and other diseases, to which they fell an easy prey in their weakened and reduced state from bad and insufficient food. Later in the year, too, from October to January, there was a violent and very wide-spread epidemic of fever, which prostrated whole villages at a time. Since then sickness has decreased, and the general health is now very good.

Financial Statement for the Sumbut year 1925.

49. I append a Statement (Appendix C.) showing the receipts and disbursements of Sumbut 1925 (5th July 1868 to 24th July 1869) as furnished by the Darbar.

The amount due to the Raj banker is now somewhat under a lakh of rupees, and, in consequence of the late very favourable harvest, the Dewan informs me that the whole of the arrears due to the troops and officials will be paid off during next month. Permission, too, having been now accorded to levy the usual transit dues on grain which were remitted during the famine, there will be an increase in the receipts this year, and the Minister assures me that a considerable sum will be received by the sale of building sites and puttās, permitting the erection of pukka houses in the various towns, which latter will go towards liquidating the Raj debt.

In the way of retrenchment, too, I may mention that some 60 or 70 horses will be given away as presents on the marriage of the Rao's daughter, which will very much reduce the stable expenditure.

The Minister now seems quite hopeful as to the future, and should we be spared from famine and the Rao continue to pursue a course of economy, I see no reason why the State debt should not be liquidated in the course of two or three years.

Marriage of His Highness the Rao's daughter.

50. The approaching marriage of His Highness' daughter with the eldest son of the Maharaja of Kishengurh has caused the Rao much anxiety, as for a long time he did not see how he could raise the necessary funds, and he frequently asked my advice and assistance in the matter. I suggested that, under the circumstances of the finances being so embarrassed, it would be but fair that the zenana, which held some of the richest villages in the State, should render assistance, and that the marriage of His Highness' daughter was a particularly fitting occasion for such a course of action. His Highness at the time declared that such a proceeding was quite out of the question, but my suggestion took effect, and a few days ago, during an interview with me, the Minister informed me that the matter had been satisfactorily arranged in accordance with my suggestion, and that, consequently, the State would not be put to any expense in the matter.

All the necessary preparations are now being made for the marriage, which is to take place on the 4th July next.

Character of His Highness the Rao.

51. During my intercourse with the Rao since I assumed charge of this Office I have found him ever-ready to seek my advice and counsel when in difficulties, and from my now having seen a good deal of him, I feel assured that he is most desirous of administering the affairs of his country properly and for the welfare of his subjects, and that he is also deeply sensible of how much his country owes to the assistance and support rendered by the British Government to him and his father. The chief defects I have found in his character are, want of energy, and also a narrow-mindedness, engendered by his having had but little education, and from his never having been any distance from Sirohi. From these qualities he naturally prefers to let things go on quietly in accordance with the customs of his forefathers to instituting vigorous reforms, the necessity and use of which he does not sufficiently see.

His Highness is also unfortunately very bigoted in regard to his religion, and owing to this he is much influenced by the priestly class, and has spent considerable sums on Brahmins and other religious sects and institutions, which sums, had they been used for State purposes, would probably have arrested the present financial crisis. On the other hand, many reforms have been instituted during the last few years: the amount of violent crime has been much reduced, if we except the plundering and robbery due to the outlaws, and I have already shown how helpless the Durbar has been rendered owing to the asylum afforded to the outlaws in the Marwar border and the absence of aid from the Sirohi jaghiredars in this matter.

The Grassia tracts have been brought into order, and the general state of the country is peaceful. Lastly, too, in considering the shortcomings of Sirohi, we should not lose sight of the fact that this State labours under peculiar and disadvantageous circumstances, *viz.*, a very small revenue combined with a wild and difficult country inhabited to a great extent by lawless and predatory classes, and bordered for the most part by a similar country inhabited by like classes: these render it for its size, perhaps, one of the most difficult States to govern in Rajpootana.

Aboo Judicial Work.

52. In addition to the ordinary duties of this Office the following work connected with the station of Aboo was disposed of:—

| | Regular Suits. | Miscellaneous Petitions. | Total. | REMARKS. |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------|---|
| | No. | No. | No. | |
| Civil Department | 76 | 54 | 130 | There was only 1 civil suit pending at the close of the year. |
| Criminal | 47 | 238 | 285 | |
| Total | 123 | 292 | 415 | |

Remarks on the new Minister.

53. Before concluding this Report I would desire to testify to the very able service rendered to the State by the new Minister, Niamut Ali, during the past year. Since assuming charge of Office he has worked with great energy and perseverance to overcome the serious difficulties under which he found the State labouring, and it is mainly owing to his exertions and to his influence and intimate knowledge of the country and the people that the Durbar has been enabled to carry on the Government during the past year.

Conclusion.

54. In conclusion, I would beg to be excused the length of this Report, but the exceptional circumstances of the year have rendered comment on many additional subjects necessary.

Appendix A.

Price Current of Aboo Bazaar for the week ending the 30th September 1869.

| | | | | | <i>Seers.</i> | <i>Chs.</i> |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------|-------------|
| Wheat | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 6½ |
| Atta | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 3½ |
| Barley | .. | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 9½ |
| Bajree | ... | .. | ... | ... | 4 | 7½ |
| Jowar | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 7½ |
| Mukkee | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 9½ |
| Gram | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 7½ |
| Mote | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 7½ |
| Dall, Moong | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 7 |
| „ Oorud | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 7 |
| Goor | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 5¾ |
| Rice | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 10½ |
| Ghee | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Oil | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 7½ |
| Cheenee | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1½ |

A B O O , }
The 2nd May 1870. }

(Sd.) C. BAYLAY, *Capt.,*
Poltl. Asstt.

Appendix B.

STATEMENT showing the number of villages, &c., in the different pergunnahs.

| NAMES OF PERGUNNAHS. | Number of Khalsa villages. | Number of Jaghire-dar vil-lages. | Number of Zenana villages. | Number of Temple's villages. | Number of Bhat, Cha-run, and Brahmin's villages. | Total. | Amount of Raj share of annual revenue. | Sowars. | Sepoys. | Total. | REMARKS. |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|--------|--|---------|---------|--------|----------|
| | | | | | | No. | Rs. a. p. | No. | No. | No. | |
| Khooneo ... | 10 | 32 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 45 | 13,481 14 3 | 6 | 34 | 40 | |
| Beetroto ... | 9 | 28 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 54 | 13,951 15 9 | 9 | 31 | 40 | |
| Aboo ... | 11 | ... | ... | 5 | ... | 16 | 7,306 3 3 | ... | 18 | 18 | |
| Jhora Kharul ... | 3 | 18 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 27 | 8,482 10 9 | 1 | 15 | 16 | |
| Mugra ... | 1 | 25 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 34 | 10,525 10 0 | 3 | 15 | 18 | |
| Barut Chowra ... | 6 | 41 | 1 | ... | 8 | 56 | 37,047 15 6 | 29 | 147 | 176 | |
| Rewail ... | 15 | 15 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 40 | 7,845 10 0 | 4 | 14 | 18 | |
| Bhakur ... | 27 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 27 | 2,806 11 3 | 5 | 39 | 44 | |
| Sath ... | ... | 42 | ... | 7 | 11 | 60 | 10,191 14 3 | 11 | 71 | 82 | |
| Total ... | 82 | 201 | 12 | 23 | 41 | 359 | 1,12,240 9 0 | 68 | 381 | 452 | |

ABOO, }
 The 2nd May 1870. } (Sd.) C. BAYLAY, Capt.,
 Political Assistant.

SOOJANGURH REPORT.

No. 140, dated 5th May 1870.

From—CAPTAIN P. W. POWLETT, Asstt. Agent, Govr.-Genl., Soojangurh.
To—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Governor-General's Agent, Rajpootana.

I HAVE the honor for the first time to submit a Report on the State of Biccaneere.

2. I need not recapitulate the general descriptive facts regarding the area, population, and appearance of the country, all of which are to be found in the Administration Report for 1865-67. Moreover, I hope to amplify the description fully in the Gazetteer, for which I am collecting the requisite information, and I will now mainly confine myself to what bears directly upon the political condition of the country and the effects of the famine.

Administration of the State.

3. The unsatisfactory administration of affairs in Biccaneere attracted attention years ago, but it has not existed during the whole reign of the present Chief; on the contrary, for the first ten years one Ram Lall governed the State with extraordinary integrity and success. All classes speak of his period of office as a golden time, when Nobles were treated with due consideration, when the complaints of the poor were listened to patiently, and if justice was not cheap to those who could pay for it, it was at least obtainable.

4. But Ram Lall's enemies six years ago prevailed against him; he was disgraced, and, it is said, died of a broken heart.

5. His successor was pledged to increase the revenues at once, and he kept his word, as I shall presently show.

6. The new Dewan did not retain office long; indeed, from the date of Ram Lall's fall the Minister's average term of office was for some years but four months, and as dismissal usually entailed confinement, respectable men would not accept office. Those who did accept filled their pockets as fast as they could, and the Maharaja at last resolved to try officials who were not natives of Biccaneere.

Officials from Delhi.

7. Accordingly, one Wilayat Hossein, of Delhi, formerly a Deputy Magistrate in Government service, was invited to Biccaneere and empowered to appoint his own people to the tehseels. Consequently, in 1868 a number of outsiders, not all of the best character, arrived to take the place of the old State officials, who, however, were allowed to retain their pay, or a portion of it. As it was understood that the interlopers had come to turn the screw harder than ever, and as there is a traditional as well as innate dislike of foreigners in Biccaneere, the arrival of Wilayat Hossein was scarcely more unwelcome to the old officials than to every one else.

8. Wilayat Hossein, however, relied on the large expectations of enhanced revenue he had excited in the mind of the Maharaja; and though he made attempts to introduce some reforms, he did not exercise a beneficial influence on the Chief, and the general dislike and distrust of him increased more and more.

9. The famine came and made it difficult to raise money for the expenses of the State, and added to the unpopularity of the Delhi party, which, however, showed no disposition to lighten the burdens of the people, heavy as since Ram Lall's time they had been.

Pundit Munphool, C.S.I.

10. At length, when debts began to increase and formidable sections of the Thakoors had united to obtain redress of grievances and rebellion seemed at hand, the Maharaja was induced to remove Wilayat Hossein and offer his place to Pundit Munphool, C.S.I., who arrived in Biccaneere last July.

11. I am aware it is often said that States affected by very strong local prejudices and far removed from enlightening influences are best managed by those born and bred in them, but when an educated and experienced man, who has a character to maintain, obtains the Dewan's seals in a State like Biccaneere, even if his being a stranger occasions heart-burnings and difficulties for a time, one cannot but rejoice at his appointment and feel anxious that he should have a fair trial, especially when he happens to be a distinguished old servant of Government like Pundit Munphool.

12. His value was recently exhibited in the difficulties with the Thakoors on the settlement of which I have reported. As, however, I think that the relations between Chief and Nobles in Biccaneere are rather remarkable, I will explain them somewhat further.

Thakoors of Biccaneere.

13. When intercourse between the British Government and Biccaneere was first established, there were three Thakoors with very large estates, Mahajan, Bahdran, and Chooroo.

14. Mahajan is about half-way between Biccaneere and the Sirsa border: the estate comprises nominally 140 villages, but of many nothing but their sites remain.

15. The Thakoor of Bahdran at the time I allude to had ^{more} ~~about~~ ~~84~~ villages situated on the Hissar border, and he was, when disposed to plunder, in a position to be particularly troublesome to British territory.

16. Chooroo had 80 villages, and, being on the Shekawattee border, had a good base of operations for retaliating when forced to abandon his fort.

17. Besides these three, there were, and are, no Thakoors with more than 30 villages and but a few who held more than a dozen, but the Bedawuts, whose country extends along part of the Marwar and Shekawattee borders, and the Sringote Beekas near the north-east boundary, were formidable clans. The Bedawuts especially are addicted to plundering.

18. Maharaja Soorut Singh, grandfather of the present Chief, was a Prince of much vigour, and in the early part of his reign he was successful against his enemies abroad, and reduced his Thakoors to subjection at home.

Chooroo was taken, custom dues were exacted from the Bedawuts, many of the refractory were deprived of their estates, and some were imprisoned and put to death. But after a time the ousted owners with the aid of others recovered their estates, plundered the country, and defied the Durbar. At length the assistance of the British Government was solicited, the Treaty of 1818 was concluded, and a British force entered Biccaneere. It restored some 12 Forts to the Durbar, extending from near Hissar to Soojangurh, and entirely re-established the Durbar's authority. Chooroo and Bahdran were both confiscated, but for many years there was no approach to order throughout the State. British troops had to co-operate with the Durbar against the outlaws, and assistance in various ways was accorded.

19. In 1834 Major Foster was established in Jhoonjhoonoo in command of the Shekawattee Brigade, of which one troop was composed of Bedawuts, and towards the expenses of which Biccaneere contributed Rupees 22,000 annually.

20. Major Foster's efficient force and his vigorous action prevented the malcontent Thakoors of Biccaneere from using Shekawattee any longer as a refuge and a lurking-place, while his neighbourhood vastly increased the controlling power of the Chief, who was able to raise the sum first levied from the Thakoors in lieu of service by Maharaja Soorut Singh.

21. When Major Foster's Brigade was removed from Shekawattee, the Durbar had become too strong to need direct assistance from Government, so that when, in 1856, an attempt was made by the Chooroo Thakoor to recover his estate by force, he was easily driven away and eventually captured.

Subjection of Thakoors.

22. The Thakoors of Biccaneere have thus been subjected; the once powerful Nobles of Chooroo and Bahdran now hold but three or four villages and reside constantly under the eye of the Durbar. Mahajan has been deprived of a third of his estate, taxes are multiplied, and lands transferred at the pleasure of the Maharaja, and all this without Thakoors holding grants again venturing to resort to the usual expedient of leaving their State and openly plundering in it from another.

23. So far as I know, there is no State in Rajpootana in which the old feudal tenure has so nearly passed away and the power of the Chief is so absolute as in Biccaneere. But there is a limit to endurance, and to avoid the retrogression which would be so great an evil, the Durbar certainly ought to make settlements with the Thakoors similar to the one recently concluded with a certain number, instead of constantly deepening the discontent by unreasonable additions to their burdens.

Revenue.

24. I estimate the revenues of Biccaneere in fair years and without extraordinary pressure at $6\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs as follows:—

| | | | | | <i>Lakhs.</i> |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------|----------------|
| Land held under grant | ... | ... | ... | ... | $2\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Fiscal | ... | ... | ... | ... | $1\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Customs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Miscellaneous, including fines, sale of lands in towns, percentage on civil suits, &c. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| | | | | Total | $6\frac{1}{2}$ |

25. Since 1864, by extreme pressure, half as much again has, I believe, been more than once collected, and there is no doubt that a dozen years' really good government would easily raise the revenue to that amount permanently for vast tracts: some to the north-east, very fertile, are uncultivated.

26. There were before the famine 880 villages held under grant by Thakoors, 510 fiscal, and 425 rent-free, or 1,805 in all—less, I believe, than were in existence 400 years ago under the Jats and Bhattees before the conquests of Beeka, the founder of the State. Of the rent-free villages, 120 are held by Brahmin bards and other literary and religious characters, 100 by servants, 50 by the zenana, and 130 by favoured Rajpoots of various clans.

27. There are 12 tehseels or Collectorates, the Superintendents of which are called Hakims, and have a good deal of ill-defined authority. But besides these districts, there are others called "Cheeras," comprising tracts in which the villages are chiefly held by Thakoors who one would expect to find possessed of the sole right or power of collection as in Marwar and Jeypore. But in Biecanere the Durbar has long been able to levy taxes directly on these villages, the Thakoors having an exclusive right to the land rent alone. To collect these imposts persons called "Cheerails" are despatched once a year, and their visits have been the bane of the country. Each with a body of followers makes a tour through his district, collecting the sums demanded. As he does not live among the people, like the Hakim, who would naturally exercise a certain amount of conciliation, he is without one check on his rapacity. I believe that no reform is more needed than the substitution of a lump sum to be levied from the Thakoors for the taxes collected from the villages under this system; and this, I am happy to remark, has been effected in the instance of the Thakoors lately settled with.

28. The miscellaneous taxes vary in different districts, and even in the same one. In the course of my enquiries I have met with some 20 different kinds paid by the cultivators (exclusive of cesses for village expenses). Perhaps, nowhere do quite all of these affect one caste in the same locality, for there is a saying that the Jat or principal agricultural class pays thirteen taxes. The yield of most of the States is small, and the system must, of course, facilitate extortion.

29. There are, besides these, the usual extraordinary taxes on account of a birth or a marriage in the Maharaja's family, repairs of, or additions to, the Biecanere Fort, &c. It was the annual imposition, since 1865, of one of the extraordinary taxes which was the main cause of the discontent and combination of the Thakoors; the tax was misnamed "Nuzurana," and often trebled and seldom less than doubled the regular assessment of their estates.

30. Fines, the sale of unowned and confiscated property, succession tax both from Thakoors and merchants, and the sale of building land in towns, all bring in a considerable sum.

31. I am very sorry that I am still unable to submit a Report on the trade and customs of Biecanere, but I have been disappointed in not having received the Returns promised. I could add something to the available information on the subject, but I prefer waiting a few months longer, when I hope to submit a tolerably complete Report. I have not yet been able to visit the principal cattle districts to the north-east, and

from circumstances I had great difficulty in obtaining any reliable information on the customs and distant localities during my last visit to Biccaneere.

Expenditure.

32. The expenditure is much higher than the State can well bear, chiefly in consequence of extravagance and over-generosity on the part of the Maharaja. Just now there are special causes which add to the expenses, amongst which may be mentioned the presence at Biccaneere of the Maharaj Gosains, who came three years ago from Jeypore, and have ever since their arrival been maintained at great cost. Lakhs of rupees have been spent on them alone. More than half a lakh was expended in the height of the famine on elephants and rare beasts and birds from Calcutta.

33. Commissariat expenses must be very large, for rations (peteea) are issued daily to a number of persons, servants, and others at Biccaneere, and there are usually more than 25 elephants and a large number of cattle to maintain. Moreover, rations are allowed to all the hereditary sowars and others employed in the tehseels, the whole expense of which, including pay, is deducted from the collections before their transmission to the Durbar, so that one important class of *employés* get both food and pay regularly. Then there is the old stud at Johur, about six miles from Biccaneere, where excellent horses and oxen and the best riding camels in India are bred. About 300 mares range the brushwood, getting grain when they choose to come to the enclosure for it. The camels, too, roam at will, being branded and without nose strings. Four lakhs may be set down as the cost of the Army Commissariat and Civil Establishment when fairly well maintained.

The Famine.

34. Nowhere has the famine been felt more fearfully than in Biccaneere. Early in October 1868 the starving had begun to flock into the town, and the Seths in Soojangurh and the neighbourhood established small relief funds, which were soon exhausted. But a certain amount of food was daily distributed by many of the well-to-do merchants. The Thakoors are generally ill-off, and did little for their ryots. Moreover, the treatment they themselves had received from the Raj had, perhaps, as an intelligent villager remarked to me, hardened them towards their dependents.

35. A tank was begun by the Durbar, but labour ceased for want of funds in a few weeks, and but a small sum of money altogether could have been spent on relief works, but the Maharaja distributed food for many months. The kitchen, which at first was at Biccaneere, had to be removed several miles off in consequence of the numbers of dead and dying.

36. I have already reported on this matter before, but I think it right to state here that I consider the Durbar failed to do its duty towards the suffering, and that its extravagance during the season of greatest distress deprives it of the excuse of want of means.

37. It is impossible yet to estimate the effects of the famine on the population, for in the many villages where I have enquired I found people unable to say what number of those missing might be expected eventually to return. Probably, what with starvation, sickness, and

emigration, Biccaneere has lost permanently more than a third of its population. Of these, judging from notes made at a distribution of food, 15 per cent. are Jats, Rajpoots, and Mahomedans of Rajpoot extraction; the rest are of low caste.

The cattle in many places have been reduced to less than one-twentieth of what they were, especially in the western part of the State. There I found in the village of the principal Thakoor but 200 head remaining out of 4,300 alive before the famine. In the principal cattle districts, those of Bhutner and the neighbouring pergunnahs, the loss was not so heavy, but throughout the whole State I should think the cattle have been reduced by nine-tenths. The distress was augmented by the pressure for revenue exerted by the Durbar, by the excessive fines, and other modes of raising or saving money, such as the seizure of grass and grain for Raj purposes, the arbitrary reduction of the price current, &c. I am sorry to say, too, that the engagement to remit transit dues on grain was to a great extent disregarded.

Present supply of food and fodder.

38. When I went to Biccaneere last November a great change had come over the appearance of the country. Good crops had here and there been raised, but the tract sown was small, and in the west locusts had destroyed half of it. Few of the emigrants had returned, and every village looked miserable. However, though the crops of grain were insufficient, the crop of grass was abundant, and the "Bharoots" (a sort of canary seed), one of the most common of the grasses, is eaten by the poor, so that there was a prospect of food for many months to come. This grass seed was being sold in the bazaars at 24 seers the rupee, or one-fourth less than bajra, the staple grain of the country, to which it is not very much inferior. A family of half-a-dozen, working hard, can store as much as 50 or 60 maunds, and in every village great heaps of it were to be seen. The "Moorat" grass, too, was abundant, and is used in the same way; and almost everywhere the wild melon was visible, the seeds of which are said to be wholesome food for man.

The richer kinds of grass for cattle, too, I found very plentiful, and I was told there was enough to last two seasons, even if uncut.

Debts.

39. The debts of the State, I am sorry to say, are accumulating. However, those contracted during the present reign are not yet formidable, amounting to less than a lakh and a half, exclusive of pay to troops and servants, the arrears of which have lately been much reduced. About half a lakh of this is due to the Jodhpore Courts of Vakeels and 17,000 to the Roorkee Workshops. Before I left Biccaneere in February last, I was assured that arrangements had been made for paying immediately a large instalment of what is due. However, you inform me that nothing has been sent, and since similar promises have been made before, I fear it has become necessary to bring the matter to the notice of Government, in order that an efficacious arrangement for payment may be made with a view to saving the Durbar the annual interest, which will be a large item.

Courts.

40. The administration of justice is, or at least has been, very unsatisfactory. I will abstain from dwelling on it now, as it is to be

hoped that the new Dewan will be permitted to establish something worthy of being called a Court.

Jails.

41. The place where the prisoners are confined is within the fort, and has been used for its present purpose for generations. The prisoners, many of whom are Rajpoots, do not look ill, although their place of confinement is small and most offensive to the smell.

Police Work.

42. When an officer was first sent to Soojangurh, the Maharaja appointed an efficient and respectable Ressaldar, who had served with great credit in a British regiment as Police Officer for the Shekawattee and Marwar frontier. He was a Jat of the Hissar District, thoroughly acquainted with the people of the country, as were also his men, who were entirely under his authority. He had also full power to act against criminals of all degrees. I consequently found my border work in Biccaneere more satisfactory than either in Marwar or Jeypore, but since the famine began, the pay of the Police has been always many months in arrears, and at length, when neither food nor fodder was obtainable, they had to abandon their posts. Travellers and convoys, nevertheless, have not suffered, as they formerly suffered, from dacoits, though the camels of the unfortunate villagers have been carried off to a sad extent. This has chiefly happened in the country far removed from the Shekawattee border. In the course of a few days' tour in the region north-east of Biccaneere I heard of 10 or 12 robberies of camels within a recent period. Very few of the depredators were outlawed or landless Thakoors, though many were probably connected with the discontented party. In February the Police posts were re-established and extended throughout the State, but I am afraid that the irregularity of the disbursement of pay still renders them inefficient.

43. It is a pleasure to be able to speak of the readiness with which the Maharaja, in accordance with the terms of the Extradition Treaty, directed the arrest of a person who had entered the Deshnuk sanctuary to escape seizure on a warrant from a British Court. As Deshnuk is the most respected sanctuary in Biccaneere, the example and precedent will be valuable in preventing refuge being given to criminals in future. The Maharaja also sanctioned measures which led to the recapture of a prisoner who had escaped from Ajmere.

Army.

44. The Army and Police I will not attempt to distinguish, but will treat the whole as one force.

It consists of about—

1,200 Cavalry.

600 Infantry.

260 Artillery.

Total ... 2,060

and between 30 and 40 guns of various sizes. The expense is over two lakhs.

Of the cavalry, about 160 have been partially drilled and pretty well armed. They are Sikhs and Jats. There is a troop of 200 Rahtores under a nephew of the Maharaja; the greater number of the rest are the hereditary horsemen of the State, whose first leader was Beeka's master of the horse during his struggle 400 years ago for the territory which forms the Biccaneere State. These horsemen are chiefly Parihar Rajpoots, and consider their title to pay and maintenance out of the revenues of Biccaneere as strong as the Maharaja's to the Chiefship. They are employed in the tehseels, and, as I have before explained, get pay and rations more regularly than the other troops.

45. Of the foot soldiers, about 200 Hindostanees are to some extent drilled and armed with muskets. There are about 150 more Hindostanees undrilled, and the rest are chiefly Kaim Khanees or Mussulmans of Rajpoot origin.

46. The artillery have little practice, but could use their guns tolerably.

47. The whole is entirely unorganized, there being no general commandant, and many of the independent commands consisting of only a few men.

Medical Institutions.

48. Since the departure of Dr. Coleridge last year, there has been no Surgeon at Biccaneere, but the Maharaja has a respectable Native Doctor from Agra, who looks after the dispensary established by Dr. Coleridge. I hope Medical Returns are now being regularly sent to the Agency Surgeon, as the necessary forms have been supplied to the Durbar.

Education.

49. The only places of education which exist in Biccaneere are the temples, Jain monasteries, and patshallas. At the last the sons of some of the wealthy merchants of India, whose homes are in Biccaneere, are taught to read, write, and cipher: their whole school equipment is a board and a bit of wood, and their studies are usually conducted in the streets. The patshallas are not so well attended now as formerly, for within the last ten years it has become the fashion to take the boys from school immediately after marriage, and send them to their parent's distant houses of business, so fitting them to take a part in mercantile operations, lately so extended, at an age when they used to begin their apprenticeship. At the patshallas a course of letter-reading and accounts takes about three years. The school fees amount to six maunds of bajra and eight rupees cash for the whole period. The wealthy pay in the shape of a present rupees one hundred additional.

50. At the upasaras or monasteries Sanscrit is studied, and in one that I entered, I found the priest, who was courteous and communicative, and ready to permit access to his large Sanscrit library, teaching geography from a curious map, which showed the concentric oceans and continents, lakhs of coss across, and history to match.

51. No more efficient school had been established three months ago, but since then the necessary books have been obtained, and I hope a promise made to begin a school for at least the young Thakoors, some of whom are bright, intelligent boys, has been fulfilled.

52. When at Biccaneere I made particular enquiries after Sanscrit works, and exerted myself to assist Pundit Harish Shastree, whom you have employed to make lists, and who seems to take much interest in his work. His Highness the Maharaja has afforded him every facility, and in future I hope that care will be taken to preserve from decay the old works which he neglected in his Palaces, where they were brought together by a Biccaneere Chief who was an Imperial General and Viceroy in the Deccan. But besides the Palace manuscripts, there are many thousand others in the Dooneenath Temple and the Jain Upasaras, particularly the Acharajee Gatchka, which was the one I have mentioned as accessible.

I have not yet received any visits from the Tibi villagers since I last reported on the matter. A respectable man is in charge of the pergunnah, and the Dewan promises to give it his attention.

Emigration.

53. Melancholy as before the famine had been the effects of misgovernment in Biccaneere, I am inclined to think that in one respect they have been exaggerated. No doubt, many agriculturists have left for British territory, especially the Paleewal Brahmins, an enterprising caste of trading agriculturists, who inhabit 12 large villages west of Biccaneere. Hundreds of these have traded successfully and occupied lands in the North-West Provinces, the wealthy ones among them coming occasionally to their homes, where they have good substantial houses, and where in good years they or their relations raise five crops of wheat. But the mass of Paleewal emigrants have gone for good. Men of other castes, too, have settled in the British districts immediately east of Biccaneere, and more would go were land procurable. It is, however, a mistake to suppose, though it is sometimes imagined, that the wealthy merchants are leaving Biccaneere. So far as I can ascertain, they show no preference for living under the direct rule of the Government, to which they indirectly owe their wealth, and visit British territory no oftener than is necessary, for the superintendence of their houses of business, which extend from Calcutta to Bombay and from Lahore to Madras. Very few of them are in any degree penetrated by European ideas, though exceedingly anxious to obtain the benefits of British protection.

His Highness the Maharaja.

54. His Highness the Maharaja's gracious and courteous manner and his attention to points of etiquette, added to his readiness to converse freely and his liberality in making presents, prevent his being unpopular. His deficiencies as a Ruler are, indeed, complained of, but he has shown a disposition really to conform to the wishes of Government when distinctly expressed, and it must be remembered that the best Minister Biccaneere has had for generations was kept for ten years in power during the present reign. Latterly, too, the Maharaja, unprompted by any English officer, has employed men like the present Dewan and the efficient Police Officer I before mentioned. It is, indeed, to be feared that as yet the Dewan's authority is only now and then sufficient to enable him to act with effect, but by degrees he will, perhaps, become stronger.

Duties on the triple border and in Shekawattee.

55. I will now touch upon my special duty on the triple border and in Shekawattee. Since my arrival at Soojangurh, I have been repeatedly across Shekawattee and along the respective borders, and at all seasons of the year. At first I found the Biccaneere Police more efficient and useful than those of either Jeypore or Marwar. But they have lately been paralysed for want of pay, while Jeypore is now, and has been since the counsels of the present Minister prevailed, the most active of the three. Within the last three months, however, the Police of Marwar have greatly improved, and have apprehended one body of landless plunderers belonging to Peepara in Seekur, and would have arrested another very important body of Saledces but for the protection of a Thakoor, who will, I trust, be punished. A month ago, too, they co-operated with a body of well-disposed Thakoors in an expedition, which resulted in the removal, one by death and the other by capture, of the two most notorious dacoit leaders on the Marwar border, namely, Mahtab Singh and Pooran Singh of Burarwa, a village which for generations has been a nest of dacoits, and which, though constantly urging it, I had previously been unable to get punished.

56. The details of this circumstance so well exhibit the characteristics of Rajpoot dacoitee in these sandy wastes, and the restraints which popular feeling imposes on violence, together with the manner in which it is sometimes punished, that the story will not, I think, be out of place.

57. In March a string of camels from Ajmere were carried off by mounted dacoits near Sudrasana in Marwar. On its being reported to Buctawar Singh, the Thakoor of the village, he did not, as is too frequent, direct a languid pursuit, but, putting trackers to follow the trail, which, to puzzle pursuers, is usually winding, rode off himself rapidly to Burarwa, to which he guessed the robbers belonged. On reaching it, he observed persons engaged in obliterating tracks between Burarwa and an adjoining village,—a common method of averting responsibility. These men, Buctawar Singh, after a scuffle, took prisoners, and carried off to Dhiyalpoora, about three coss distant, where a large body of Burarwa people and their allies of Bhamot, headed by Mahtab Singh and Pooran Singh, furiously angry, followed, threatening death to Buctawar Singh. The Thakoor of the village was a child, but his mother, though unable to oppose the Burarwa party by force, denounced Mahtab Singh and his friends to their faces as robbers and disturbers of honest folk, and she took Buctawar Singh into her own apartments, where, in spite of their heat, the dacoits dared not molest them. A promise to restore the plunder was made, but Buctawar Singh lost his hostages, and felt disgraced; he therefore applied to his relations, of whom the powerful Koochawun Thakoor was one, to assist him in punishing Mahtab Singh and Pooran Singh, and he placed himself in communication with the Durbar's representative near Soojangurh. On the morning of the 17th of March, before dawn, a strong party, consisting chiefly of the Koochawun clansmen and a detachment of the Durbar's troop, assembled at Bhamot, where the dacoits were. It being still dark, the village chowkeedar challenged them, and on his getting a sharp answer, the party was fired on and a Thakoor wounded, on which a shout to assault was raised, and the gate of the Dhulkot,

or fort made of sand supported by facings of "phog" roots, was forced. In the scuffle which ensued Mahtab Singh was wounded mortally and Pooran Singh very severely, and their followers were taken prisoners.

The Jeypore prisoners from Shekawattee.

58. The confinement of the Thakoors of Mulseesir, Choukree, Bhutol, &c., has had an excellent effect, which will be marred, I fear, should the constant efforts to obtain their release be successful. Popular feeling is so much in their favour, and their villages are so ill-cared for in their absence, that it will be difficult to resist the pressure, as no definite period of imprisonment has been fixed. But if it is resolved that violent crime shall be put down and no longer treated as an excusable ebullition of enterprising spirit, I think these Thakoors ought not to be pardoned, or, at any rate, not for many years to come, nor until the condition of the whole tract, both of Biccaneere and Marwar, as well as Shekawattee, in which their punishment facilitates the check of crime, no longer needs such an example.

Seekur.

59. It is right that I should mention how actively and consistently Mokund Singh, the Manager of Seekur, continues to assist me. Nowhere is crime punished so promptly and the lawless kept down so completely as in this little State, and I should look upon any accident which might remove Mokund Singh from his office before the majority of the little Rao Raja as a misfortune.

Improvements.

60. That a great improvement has been effected is evident from the fact of there having been, during the past year, in spite of the distress caused by famine, no extensive plundering of convoys in Shekawattee and its borders, nor appreciable enhancement of the rate of insurance ("Bheema" or "Jokun") paid by traders on goods passing between Jeypore and the towns north of it. Black-mail ("Bolaie"), which three years ago was levied by Bhopal Singh of Buhtal, and the Saledes, who had their Agents at Bheewanee and the principal Shekawattee towns east of Seekur, has, I believe, entirely ceased.

Insurance of convoys.

61. Perhaps if a periodical Report of the rates of insurance on goods in transit were to be obtained from Bheewanee, Jeypore, and Jodhpore, it would be a useful index of the state of the country. But it must not be supposed that insurance money alone is expected to recoup the assurer for the plunder occasionally of goods insured. On such goods being carried off the assurer pays the owner, and then makes what he can out of the case by a suit in the Court of Vakeels; and it is said that by exaggerating the loss he not unfrequently gains ultimately by the robbery.

62. Some progress has been made by Jeypore towards restraining the Meenas, and I hope much progress may be anticipated in Kot-Pootlee, which is so notorious for them. I believe Captain Walter was perfectly correct in attributing the mail cart robberies on the Jeypore and Agra Road last year to this class. Six of the culprits are in custody, but it will probably be a good while before many of the ringleaders are arrested.

